

Aquino calls for unity

Troops tear-gas rioters

MANILA, Feb. 2. (Reuters): Philippine troops fired into the air and used teargas today to quell rioting mobs protesting against election cheating.

Residents said a two-year-old boy died after being suffocated by the acrid gas in the dawn street battle in the Manila suburb of Muntinlupa. But Mayor Victor Aguinaldo denied the report, saying no bodies had turned up in hospitals.

It was the second day of street protests by supporters of losing candidates in last month's local elections.

Government television said 20 people were wounded and police arrested several rioters but released them later.

Helmeted soldiers battled 1,000 supporters of losing mayoral candidates after the mobs blocked roads with trees, felled power poles and built barricades of rock and rubbish.

Police fired into the air to disperse others who stoned the town hall.

The violence came as President Corason Aquino, visiting her home province of Tarlac, appealed for reconciliation among winners and losers in last month's local elections.

"It's time for us to unite. The elections are over," Aquino told local officials.

Public Works Secretary Juanito Ferrer, who was supposed to explain the government's programme, felt the presidential barbs when he gave a discourse on how lucky people were to live in Aquino's home province.

"Talk about the projects," Aquino said, cutting him off.

Aquino did not spare her national irrigation administration chief Federico Alday who tried to parry residents' complaints about illegal dykes that had deprived their farms of water.

When Alday said he could not act on complaints unless he received an official report, Aquino snapped: "Why do you have to wait for a report? Why don't you send someone out there or go there yourself?"

Aquino's unprecedented outbursts followed her announcement at the weekend that implementation of 72 foreign-funded projects costing about \$1.8 billion had been delayed.

She told a television interview the government could not take up other foreign loan offers because of the lack of well-prepared projects that could be immediately implemented.

Meanwhile, new Philippine military chief Renato de Villa, angered by communist rebel boasts of growing strength, today vowed to launch an offensive to end the 19-year-old guerrilla war.

Infant death rate rising in US

UNITED NATIONS, Feb. 2. (AP): The United States, despite its wealth and medical advances, has a higher infant death rate than 17 other industrialised countries, the National Commission on Infant Mortality said.

In a hearing at the United Nations, the commission reported that the US infant mortality rate—deaths per 1,000 births in the first year—was 10 in 1986.

Japan, Sweden, France, Canada, Australia, West Germany, Britain and other nations all rank higher and take better care of their mothers and children than the United States, which has the highest per capita Gross National Product.

More social, financial and educational support, protective laws and benefits for mothers, more prenatal home visits and a stronger, independent midwife profession were among the suggestions to improve the US situation.

"I am embarrassed that the United States does so poorly," Senator Lawton Chiles, chairman of the National Commission to Prevent Infant Mortality, told the hearing.

US-Soviet meetings to begin soon

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2. (AP): US Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze will begin a series of monthly meetings, but each country has given a different view of what the discussions will cover.

The meetings are scheduled to begin Feb 21 in Moscow.

Assistant Secretary of State Rozanne Ridgway, who will accompany Shultz on the trip, said the Secretary would give equal weight to the US campaign to persuade the Soviets to improve living conditions for their people and to lower emigration barriers.

She said human rights and Afghanistan—two just arms control—will be high on the agenda.

A treaty to halve the US and Soviet armories of long-range bombers, missiles and nuclear submarines would cap President Ronald Reagan's fourth and final meeting with General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev and assure both leaders a place in history—if negotiators can get it ready in time.

The Soviet news agency Tass, in announcing Shultz's trip, emphasised the work he and

Shevardnadze would do in drafting a strategic arms reduction treaty.

Tass quoted Gennady Gerasimov, the Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman, as saying Shultz and Shevardnadze would "conduct the necessary preparation of the draft treaty on 50 per cent reduction of the strategic offensive arms."

The meeting will also "create conditions for President Reagan's forthcoming visit to Moscow to end with a concrete result as has Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Washington," Gerasimov said.

He said Shultz and Shevardnadze will discuss other matters "that will be topical at the time of the visit."

Ms Ridgway said the Soviets would be prodded to withdraw their 115,000 troops from Afghanistan after an intervention of more than eight years.

Shultz will leave Washington on Feb 19, stop in Helsinki and then fly to the Soviet capital Feb 21. He and Shevardnadze will meet over two days, and possibly also on Feb 23 before Shultz leaves for Brussels to brief the North Atlantic Treaty Organization on his way home.



Ahsan on the gallows.

Killer of 5-year-old boy hanged publicly

ISLAMABAD, Feb. 2. (Reuters): A man convicted of murdering a five-year-old boy to get a bowl of blood for the woman he loved was publicly hanged in central Pakistan on Monday, police said.

Ten thousand people and hundreds of riot police watched as Mohammad Ahsan was put to death on a tripod gallows at a stadium in Multan, in Punjab province, jail officials said.

He was the third man executed in public in Punjab in the past few weeks in a law-and-order drive by the provincial government. Several political organisations protested at the public execution.

Ahsan's crime dated back several years.

The woman, as a means of repelling his advances, had told him to prove his love by bringing her a bowl full of his blood. Instead Ahsan killed the five-year-old in the town of Sahiwal and used the boy's blood.

The woman guessed the truth and told police.

Death sentences are normally carried out behind jail walls in Pakistan.

US vetoes resolution on Mideast peace talks

(Continued from Page 1)

plan for Palestinian autonomy, or limited self-rule, in the West Bank and Gaza.

US officials said Habib stopped in Paris on his way back to the United States to brief an Egyptian delegation, including Mubarak, in Paris.

Secretary of State George Shultz told a Congressional Committee that Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy might visit the Middle East to continue US efforts to bridge differences between Israel and Arab states.

King Hussein arrived in Paris from Rome today on the second stage of a tour of five European capitals to press the growing campaign for peace negotiations to solve the Israeli-Palestinian problem.

The Reagan administration has also proposed a new peace initiative, which focusses on three steps:

● Phase one: quick elections for a local Palestinian leadership with a limited governing autonomy on the West Bank. Israel will allow the elections and will not interfere in them. The US is thinking of holding these elections within the coming three months.

● Phase two: convening of an international conference before the end of this year. But the conference as envisioned by Washington is to be ceremonial in its opening form that will immediately lead to face-to-face negotiations after a day or two.

Result

● Phase three: final agreement to be reached on a comprehensive settlement that will result from these face-to-face negotiations. The final session of the international conference will simply bless and guarantee the implementation of the agreement with no interference by any superpower in the final outcome. There will be no veto power on the outcome by any outside party.

The PLO today accused Israel of trying to exterminate Palestinians in its handling of unrest in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

PLO representative Nabil Ramlawi told the United Nations Human Rights Commission that attacks by Israeli troops on unarmed men, women and children at the order of Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin amounted to genocide.

Fighting flares around Kabul

Cordovez resumes shuttle

ISLAMABAD, Feb. 2. (AP): UN mediator Diego Cordovez flew today to the Pakistani capital from Kabul on the fifth leg of a diplomatic shuttle aimed at ending the nine-year-old war in Afghanistan.

His arrival coincided with reports of new fighting around the Afghan capital, including a Soviet claim that Afghan forces seized a cache of missiles that Muslim fighters intended to fire into Kabul.

Cordovez' return to Islamabad after three days of talks with the Afghans came on short notice, Pakistani officials said.

Hopes

"We got about 20 minutes' notice," said a Foreign Ministry official. "But that's nothing new. His schedule is made up literally hour-by-hour."

The Ecuadorean diplomat has served as a go-between for the Islamabad and Kabul governments since Afghan peace talks began in Geneva in 1982.

This year, however, hopes for a settlement reached new heights after Soviet officials openly said they were ready to agree on a withdrawal of the estimated 115,000 Soviet troops who have fought Afghan insurgents since December 1979.

Cordovez has said little about the progress of his shuttle mission, now in its second week. But Pakistani announcements couched in diplomatic phrases indicate the major issue is the make-up of an Afghan administration once the Soviets leave.

Najib, leader of Kabul's Marxist government, has called for a coalition with resistance parties, a proposal the insurgents flatly reject.

Pakistan has served as a mouthpiece for the Mujahedeen in the Geneva talks because it aids their struggle, with help from the United States, and shelters more than 3.5 million Afghan refugees.

There was no indication how long Cordovez would remain in

Islamabad or if he planned to return to Kabul.

Western diplomatic sources in the Pakistani capital said fighting in Afghanistan continued this week at unprecedented levels for the winter.

They cited reports from their counterparts in Kabul that new fighting has broken out in the Shomali basin north of the city.

Guerrilla activity has forced the closing of the Salang Highway, a key supply route running north to the Soviet border, they said.

Mujahedeen also stepped up attacks on electric power facilities east of Kabul, disrupting power supplies to the capital, the diplomats said.

The reports indicated that Soviet-Afghan forces and the guerrillas were forgoing the usual winter lull that accompanies the first significant snows of the season.

On Saturday, Cordovez had to postpone a trip to Kabul for one

day because of heavy snow.

The Soviet news agency Tass also reported today that Afghan government forces prevented a rocket attack on the capital by finding a cache of 12 surface missiles and three "explosive devices" in the nearby mountains.

Tass did not say where or when the arms were found.

UN role

Meanwhile, Stephen Lewis, Canada's Ambassador to the United Nations, said today that the United Nations would have a major role in any settlement reached on the Afghan conflict.

"Without it, you couldn't reach a settlement," Lewis told an audience of diplomats and politicians at the Institute of Strategic Studies. Some Soviet reporters were also present.

He discussed UN sponsored talks in Geneva between Pakistan and Afghanistan designed to bring about the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan and restore peace in the country.

London worried over Briton held in Iran

LONDON, Feb. 2. (AP): Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government has expressed concern over press reports that the Iranian government seeks to use jailed British businessman Roger Cooper as a political bargaining counter.

Cooper, 52, a nephew of the late British poet and novelist Robert Graves, has been held in Tehran's Evin prison since his arrest on Dec 7, 1985. He was originally held for overstaying his visa but after the British Foreign Office complained the Iranians accused him of spying for Britain.

Pressure

The Times of London reported Monday that Iran's Supreme Islamic court is due to rule on the validity of the death sentence passed on Cooper by a lower court for alleged spying. But the paper quoted unnamed sources close to the Tehran government as saying they do not expect Cooper to be executed.

It quoted the sources as saying:

"His case is political... Cooper is a foreigner and the government is aware that countries have certain levers of pressure at their disposal."

The Times did not indicate how the Iranian government reportedly sought to use Cooper to exert political pressure.

But another London paper, the Sunday Telegraph, reported that Iran wants Britain to reopen its embassy, back Iran in its seven-year-old Gulf war with Iraq and supply spare parts for Iran's British-built Rapier anti-aircraft missiles.

Britain has kept its embassy in Tehran closed since 1980 following seizure of the US Embassy there and British government contacts are usually maintained through Swedish Embassy.

The Sunday Telegraph, which said Mrs Thatcher's government has protested that the charges against Cooper are trumped up, added: "Middle East diplomatic sources said the Tehran regime might also offer help in releasing Terry Waite... if Britain would cooperate."

N. Korea retaliates against Japan

TOKYO, Feb. 2. (AP): North Korea today declared a ban on diplomatic contacts with Japan in retaliation for sanctions against Pyongyang imposed after the bombing of a Korean Air (KAL) jetliner.

North Korea said it would deny entry to Japanese government officials and individuals with government ties and break off talks concerning the fate of two Japanese fishermen serving 20-year sentence for alleged spying.

"We cannot but take a resolute countermeasure against the so-called sanctions taken by the Japanese government linking the KAL incident with the DPRK (North Korea)," said the Rodong Simmun, the organ of the central committee of the Workers Party of Korea in a commentary.

"This is an intolerable vicious challenge to the sovereignty and dignity of our republic and a criminal move to further aggravate tensions on the Korean peninsula, contrary to

the common desire and interests of the peoples of Korea and Japan," said the paper.

Contacts

"From this moment, today, North Korean diplomats will never contact Japanese diplomats," the official news agency said.

Japan had imposed limited sanctions against North Korea last month after the destruction in November of a South Korean jetliner carrying 115 people. A woman who was a passenger on an earlier part of the flight said on Jan 15 that she was a North Korean agent and had planted a bomb on the jet, which disappeared near Burma.

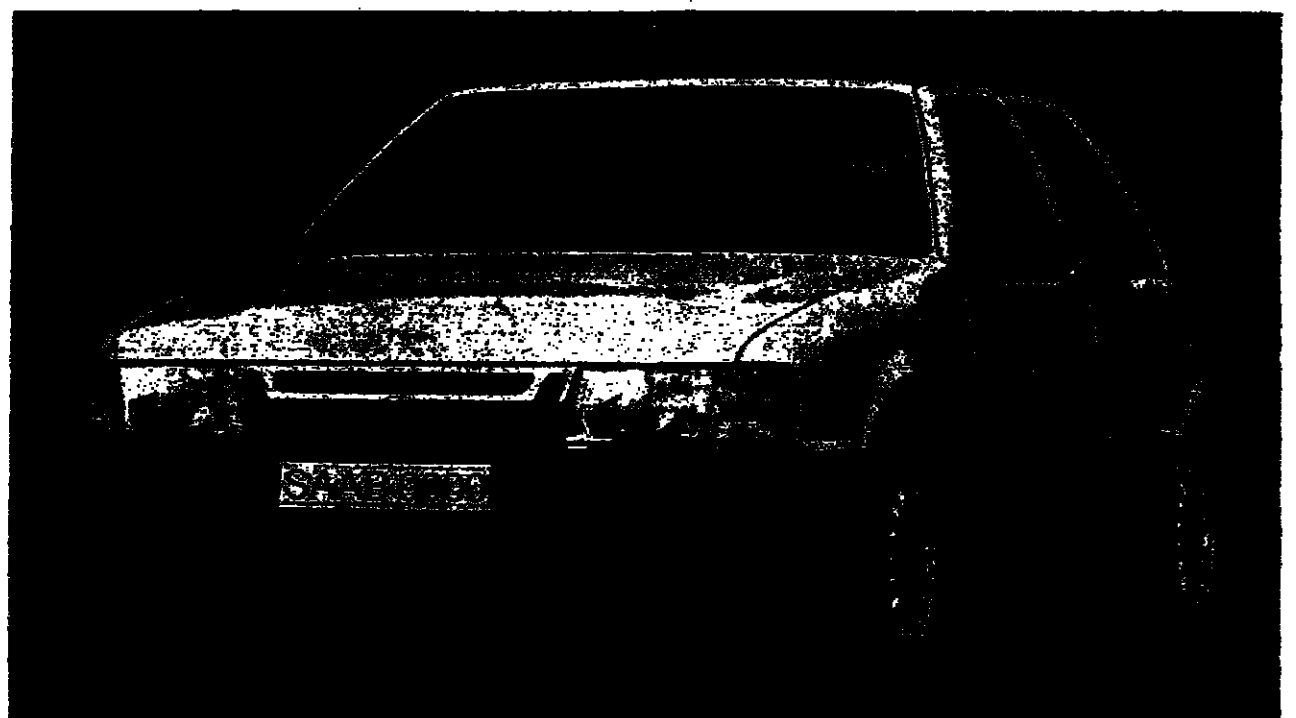
Meanwhile, police broke up a protest near the US Embassy today and took away 80 students demanding the United States stop threatening retaliatory trade sanctions against South Korea for refusing to open its domestic markets to foreign goods.

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Islamic kitchen feasible

Kasco makes profits

FEASIBILITY studies have shown that the proposed Islamic kitchen at Heathrow Airport will be profitable and it will ensure stable prices in the face of market fluctuations, the chairman of Kuwait Aviation Services Company (Kasco), Ahmed Al Zaben said at a press conference held yesterday.

Reviewing the development of Kasco since 1983, Al Zaben said that Kasco was established to complement the activities of its parent company, the Kuwait Airways Corporation (KAC).

The flight kitchen was set up in January 1983, as the main activity of Kasco, with a capacity of producing 20,000 meals a day. It was meant to supply the catering needs of KAC and all airlines operating in Kuwait and to provide better quality at lower cost.

Merge
Kasco made a net profit of KD2,373,418 between January 1983 and June 1986. Its capital has been increased to KD4,400,000 to meet future demands.

He said that the drop in the number of flights at Kuwait Air-



Ahmed Al Zaben

port had reduced the demand for catering services, but this had not affected Kasco's performance level.

Al Zaben said the role of Kasco's local travel agency was confined to hotel reservations because of market competition and other factors.

In reply to a question about Kasco's intention to merge with similar companies or allow such companies to merge with it, he said that studies were underway

but nothing specific had been worked out.

Kasco also handles the cargo and baggage of all airlines at the airport.

It manages the airport cafeterias and restaurants as well as the restaurants and club restaurant of KAC.

Training

Zaben said that the number of employees had increased from 420 in 1983 to 2,200 in 1987. Highly qualified Kuwaitis sent abroad by Kasco for training are now taking over important positions in the company.

Other services—such as printing, laundry and technical work, maintenance of ground equipment and buildings of KAC—are being provided by Kasco from January this year.

Al Zaben said that Kasco had made a contract with L.S.G., a company affiliated to Lufthansa and specialised in providing catering and ground services. This company has made a study, over the past five years, on ways to update Kasco's standards according to the latest international development in the field of catering and related services.



● Kuwait's Information Minister, Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Sabah, yesterday visited the television station. He is seen listening to the director, Saleh Al Fahd (left).

Social and old films highly popular

By Qasem Nayel

THE owners of video tape shops said that social and old films were popular among a large number of customers ranging from 25 to 45 years of age.

They also said that tapes of sports, especially wrestling, football, basketball and ice hockey, were in great demand by youths and children.

New Turkish movies which were characterised by seduction, attracted a large group of men between 20 and 30 years old.

They said that children were not treated fairly, and Arab film makers had no interest in making movies for children.

They blamed the Information Ministry for not permitting the sale of some films that were shown on television and blamed some officials for preventing the display of some videofilms which had been previously authorised by the ministry.

Relations

A video shop owner, Alla Husni, said that more than 180 customers came to his shop daily. He said there were no problems with the customers, although some complained that copies were old and not clear and demanded a good copy.

He urged people to clean their video cassette recorders regularly and have maintenance done at specialist shops.

He said his shop sold a large number of video tapes, especially those of new Arabic films and New Year parties. Films of Adel Imam were in large demand and were considered the No 1 in the video industry.

Husni said relations with the Information Ministry were good and representatives visited the shop regularly. But some staff seized video tapes that had been formerly authorised for sale by the ministry and this caused problems with customers, because these films had been sold previously to other customers.

He said that video shops in Kuwait should cooperate with the distributors.

Adventure

Atouli Dwan, a salesman at a video shop, said the shop was established a year ago and had at least 250 to 300 customers a day, with bigger numbers on Thursdays, Fridays and holidays. He said his shop specialised in Indian, Pakistani and English films. Most customers were interested in adventure films and were of different nationalities, including Russians, Britons and Indians.

A video tape dealer, Narsman, called on the Information Ministry to enforce the rights of Indian movies. He said that films brought from India could be copied without restriction.

Faleiro leaves for Bahrain

INDIAN Minister of State for External Affairs Eduardo Faleiro yesterday left here for Bahrain, ending a two day official visit.

Faleiro delivered a message to HH the Amir of Kuwait from Indian Premier Rajiv Gandhi, and met with HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah and Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed.

He held talks, during his stay, with his Kuwaiti counterpart Saoud Osaimi on bilateral relations, the situation in the Gulf region, Indian peninsula, Mideast developments and the ongoing uprising of the Palestinian people.

Trade and Industry Minister Faisal Abdel-Razzaq Al Khalid yesterday received Faleiro and the accompanying delegation.

The two sides discussed bilateral trade and economic relations, means of boosting them, as well as the possibility of increasing commercial exchange.

The Indian official was seen off by Osaimi, Foreign Ministry Undersecretary Sulaiman Al Shaheen the Indian Ambassador to Kuwait and other senior officials.

Relations between Japan, UAE growing

TOKYO, Feb 2, (Kuna): Japan's major mass media have demonstrated today keen interest in the United Arab Emirates, reflecting booming relations and cooperation with the Arab Gulf country.

Attention of television and newspapers was focused on Japan festival in Abu Dhabi and other cities of UAE as a major economic and cultural event which will continue until Feb 13.

Relations between Japan and UAE are warming up more than ever amid prospects that an official visit by UAE President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan to Japan would materialize some time this year, observers noted.

A Japanese delegation of 160 members is presently visiting UAE on the occasion of the Japanese festival there, in which some 40 trading and industrial firms are participating along with Japanese government agencies to exhibit their country's economic and cultural activities, it was reported.

Meanwhile, newspapers have reported disclosures by the UAE Oil Minister Dr. Mana Saeed Al Otaiba in which he predicted world oil prices would rebound to around 18 dollars a barrel within a week or two.

Otaiba is expected to arrive in Tokyo on February 12 on a week-long visit, one of several trips he made to Japan during the past ten years or so, it was reliably learnt.

Otaiba made a deep impres-

sion in 1981 when he came to Tokyo to introduce to the Japanese people chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization Yasser Arafat as a national hero during his historic visit to this country then.

According to the UAE Embassy Charge d'Affaires Ismael Youssuf, bilateral trade between his country and Japan totalled \$2 billion last year, in favour of UAE.

In addition to booming trade, the Arab Gulf country has been No.1 exporter of crude oil to Japan since June last year, replacing Saudi Arabia in the coveted position.

Oil imports from UAE last December totalled 3.4 million kilometres, thus remained the major supplier to Japan for the past six months in a row, official figures showed.

On the lighter side, many Japanese, who have taste for poetry, have shown interest in Otaiba's poem he wrote last December, in which he addressed his Kuwaiti counterpart Sheikh Ali Khalifa Al Athbi Al Sabah, as it was recently translated into Japanese.

Embassy in Beirut

KUWAIT hopes to send diplomats and other personnel to its embassy in Beirut as soon as situation returns to normal there, Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed said yesterday.

Youth delegation for Oman

ABDUL Rahman Al Mazroui, the Assistant Undersecretary for Youth Affairs at Kuwait's Social Affairs and Labour Ministry, received in his office on Saturday the Kuwaiti delegation of young men participating in an overland trip organised by the Sultanate of Oman.

The trip which is planned for Jan 31 to Feb 18 is one of the efforts made to further relations between Gulf Cooperation Council youths.

The 11-member delegation, headed by Jassem Al Dural, were seen off by Al Mazroui when they left Kuwait on Sunday.



Al Mazroui greets one of the members of the delegation which is travelling overland to Oman.



The delegation pictured before their departure to Oman.

Khorafi arrives in Tunis

TUNIS, Feb 2, (Kuna): Kuwaiti Finance Minister, Jassem Al Khorafi, arrived here today, heading his country's delegation to the 44th session of the Arab League's economic and Social Council scheduled to open here tomorrow.

Participants will discuss the situation of the pan-Arab organisations, joint Arab action, evaluation of the League's specialised organisations and the experts' report on developing commercial exchange between the Arab states, in addition to a number of other issues.

The Kuwaiti official was received at the airport by the League's Assistant Secretary General Abdel Mohsen Zalzalah and the Kuwaiti Charge d'Affaires Abdulla Al Masoud and other senior officials.

Saudi Arabia introduces road tax

RIYADH, Feb 2, (UPI): Saudi Arabia today introduced an annual \$53 road tax in a new attempt to increase government revenues after sharp falls in crude prices, officials said.

The officials said the levy for three years in advance would be collected when motorists registered their vehicles.

The tax represents a second attempt by the kingdom's planners to broaden government revenues and narrow this year's anticipated \$8 billion budget deficit.

Saudi King Fahad earlier rescinded new taxes, increases in service charges and income tax on the earnings of the country's foreign workers after protests.

Life term for killing maid

A MAID who stabbed to death and chopped off the head of another maid has been sentenced to life imprisonment by Kuwait's Criminal Court.

The maid confessed stabbing her colleague and then chopping off her head to ensure her death.

She said the deceased worked with her but was always trying to show her employers that she was not fit for the work. They quarrelled the day before the incident, and the deceased maid threatened to beat her and kill her. She added that she was frightened the deceased maid might murder her and therefore decided to get rid of the other maid. When they went to bed, she kept awake until the deceased had fallen asleep, and then killed her.

The court took the maid's age and the circumstances into consideration and sentenced her to life imprisonment instead of to death.

Qaboos receives Fahd message

MUSCAT, Feb 2, (Kuna): Saudi Minister of Electricity and Water Abdul Aziz Al Zamil left Muscat today after delivering a written message to Sultan Qaboos from the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz.

In a statement to reporters before his departure the Saudi Minister said his visit to Oman provided an opportunity to confer with officials in charge of industry on cooperation between the two countries in the industrial field.



● At the recently concluded Maaza Mango luck drive promotion, the bumper prize of a Toyota Crown Super Saloon 1988 was claimed by Awala Abdi Deena. A free return ticket to the UK, three double-door refrigerators, seven television sets, five video cassette recorders, 25 bicycles, 50 watches and 100 melamine sets were also given away. Picture shows the winner receiving the keys of the car at the Toyota Al Rai showroom.

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Kuwait Financial Center Announces a change in its official working hours

As from Feb 1st, the working hours will be as follows:

Main Office: From Sunday to Thursday
from 8.00 am to 12.30 noon
and from 4.30 to 7.00 pm

Friday and Saturday: weekly holiday

Rehab Branch: From Sunday to Thursday
from 8.30 am to 1.00 pm
and from 4.30 to 7.00 pm

Sheikh Nawaf holds talks with senior officials

KUWAIT'S Defence Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed yesterday conferred, for the first time since he assumed duties of his new post, with chief of general staff, defence undersecretary and senior ministry officials.

After discussing administrative and legal issues with the ministry's staff, Sheikh Nawaf extended his remarks concerning upgrading efficiency.

The minister tackled military matters and stressed the importance of supervising duties assigned to officers, technically and administratively.

Sheikh Nawaf welcomed proposals that would assist in improving performance of the ministry.

He said he will inspect different departments and army units regularly.

Sheikh Nawaf wished all the ministry's staff success in fulfilling their duties.

Three killed in road accident

THREE people died when their car overturned after colliding with another car.

There were 15 accidents in Kuwait on Monday; one in Kuwait City, three each in Hawalli and Ahmadi and eight in Jahra.

Science club focuses on developing talents

SHEIKH Sabah Humoud Al Sabah, the Editor-in-Chief of Al Majarra magazine and member of the Kuwait Science Club, said the club has planned many science activities for this year, which will focus on developing the talents and scientific skills of Kuwaiti children.

He said the club also had plans to camping both in Kuwait and outside and had arranged international symposiums to discuss ways in which young scientists could develop their interests in science and space technology.

The club has contacted research centres such as Nasa, Anta and Arian in the hope that a programme of joint cooperation

could be developed for young people, he said.

He added that the club would be cooperating with Kuwait Institute for Science and Research in the fields of power and communications, with Kiar providing guidance and supervision to the young scientists.

More effort is needed in developing scientific skills in the fields of computers, electronics, aviation, agriculture, power and mechanics among young people, he said, adding that the club planned to contact other science institutes worldwide to seek cooperation in an effort to upgrade the level of their activities.

Kuwaitisation is the goal

ABDUL Aziz Al Ziben, the Assistant Undersecretary of the Civil Service Commission, said the policy of the CSC is to replace non-Kuwaiti personnel with Kuwaitis whenever possible without affecting the normal work procedures at ministries, adding that this can be done gradually.

He said the CSC does not appoint expatriates in government sectors except in rare cases when expertise is unavailable among nationals. Al Ziben explained that Kuwait is planning to train Kuwaitis to replace

expatriates in various fields.

Regarding housing for public servants, he said the general trend is to discontinue housing provisions when new people are hired. He added that CSC regulations regarding the employment of students in the public sector while studying had not changed.

He added that all Kuwaitis who graduate from universities, institutes, training courses and have a Secondary School Certificate can be appointed to positions in the public sector according to their majors.



● The Indian State Minister for Foreign Affairs Eduardo Faleiro (right) talking with his Kuwaiti counterpart Saoud Mohammed Al Osaimeh at the reception hosted by the Indian Ambassador N.M. Jha (centre) at the Indian Embassy on Monday.

90 pc of civil servants in Saudi Arabia are nationals

SAUDI Labour and Social Affairs Minister Mohammed Al Fayed has asserted that 90 per cent of civil servants in the kingdom are Saudi nationals.

Al Fayed said, in an interview with a Kuwaiti newspaper published yesterday, the foreign workforce is concentrated in the con-

struction sector, out of whom Arab nationals form majority.

He expressed hope to reach comprehensive coordination in fields of labour and social affairs among Gulf Cooperation Council states, pointing out that the development plans are still drawn on unilateral levels.

Police patrol course

THE third special police patrol activities were opened at the non-commissioned Officers Training Institute on Monday with a ceremony attended by the Director of the institute Lt Col Yusef Al Sadu, Chief of Police Patrols in Hawalli Lt Col Khalifa Matar and a number of officers.

Twenty-nine non-commissioned officers are participating in the course.

ROYAL COURT

Amiri audiences

HH the Amir yesterday received HH the Crown Prince and Premier, Sheikh Soud Al Abdullah Al Sabah and the Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed.

Cable of thanks

HH the Crown Prince and Premier, Sheikh Soud Al Abdullah Al Sabah received a message yesterday from board chairman of the Kuwaiti Squash Association, in which he thanked Sheikh Soud for his interest in this sports event.

The Crown Prince and Premier sent a reply message, in which he expressed appreciation for the successful efforts exerted in organising this championship which enhanced cooperation between Asian youths and strengthened the sports movement.

KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

Dangerous intentions

AKUWAITI daily Al Rai Al Aam while hailing the current Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories, yesterday said that the upheaval revealed the dangerous intentions of the US and Israel.

In a front-page editorial, the newspaper said that the reality of Israel, glossed over by the US media, was revealed by the uprising which began on December 8.

The daily added that the Israeli soldier's brutality against the Palestinians will be documented by the "human rights committee as an example of flagrant violation of human rights."

As far as the impact of the uprising on the US is concerned, the paper pointed out that it has awakened the public opinion that started to pressurise the US government to moderate its support for Israel.

The paper expressed astonishment over the US for asking Iraq to pay 75 million dollars in compensation for the death of 37 American marines aboard the warship "Stark" that was hit by Iraq by mistake in May last year.

The daily in this context, wondered who will pay compensation to families of the 41 Palestinian victims of indiscriminate Israeli shooting.

Sheikh Sabah meetings

KUWAIT'S Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed yesterday received the Ambassador of Federal Germany to Kuwait to discuss bilateral relations and means of promoting cooperation between West Germany, who is current chairman of the European Economic Community, and the Gulf Cooperation Council.

Later Sheikh Sabah received the Minister of Justice and Legal Affairs Dhari Abdullah Al Othman and Communications Minister Abdulla Al Sharhan.

Sheikh Sabah also received a message from the Foreign Minister of Bangladesh Humayun Rashid Chowdhury thanking Kuwait for its humanitarian stands and Sheikh Sabah's personal service to the Arab and Islamic causes.

The message was delivered by the Bangladesh Ambassador here Mohammad Shehabuddin to Sheikh Sabah's office director Abdulla Saud Al Abdal Razzak.

Czech official ends visit

CZECHOSLOVAKIAN Ministry of Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Doshan Olcak left yesterday for Abu Dhabi after concluding his four-day official talks with Kuwait officials on matters of bilateral matters.

Olcak who arrived here last Saturday held a series of meetings with his Kuwait counterpart Sulaiman Majed Al Shaheen and discussed with him the crucial issues involving the Iran-Iraq war and the Palestinian uprising in occupied Arab lands.

During his stay here Olcak also met with several other senior Kuwaiti officials and exchanged views on boosting bilateral relations between the two friendly countries.

Rust in water a big problem

DR HOMOUD Al Rqobah, Kuwait's Minister of Electricity and Water, said the most important problem facing him in his ministry work is treating the water so as to eliminate the rust. He added that this problem can be solved chemically.

He said that he would be giving special attention to the amount of electricity consumed in an effort to reduce consumption. He added that HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister had stressed the importance of meetings between ministers and citizens as a means of developing relations between them.

Sri Lankan flag hoisting

A FLAG hoisting ceremony will be held on Feb 4 on the occasion of Sri Lanka's National Day.

It will take place at the Sri Lankan embassy premises in Keifan, Block 6, Al Andalus Street, House No 31, at 9.30 am.

A sports meeting will also be held on Feb 5 at Al Arabi stadium from 8 am, and prizes will be presented by two Sri Lankan film stars who are coming to Kuwait.

All Sri Lankans are invited to attend.

Nouri discusses educational ties with Assad

AMMAN, Feb 2. (Kuna): The Kuwaiti Education Minister and acting Minister of Higher Education, Anwar Al Nouri today discussed here with Jordanian Minister of Higher Education, Nasser Eddin Al Assad, means of enhancing bilateral educational relations in high-education areas.

During the meeting the Jordanian official said 12 university seats have been annually earmarked for Kuwaiti students in various specialisations.

Nouri praised Jordan's high-education experience noting "we will benefit from it."

The Kuwaiti official paid a visit to the Jordanian Geographical Centre as well as a number of important educational institutions.

Demand for telex services drops

AN official source at Kuwait's Communication Ministry said the recent decrease in the demand for telex and telegraph services was due to a number of factors which included the way charges were calculated and the introduction of the facsimile service.

The source said that charges for telex services between certain countries was based on charges per minute, compared to a charge per picture or document. The source explained that before the facsimile service was introduced, a picture and data were relayed through the telex facilities. With the fax equipment easily connected to telephone lines by the ministry, the demand for telex services has dropped, he said.

The source added that a subscriber always demands the most cost-effective means of sending information which accounted for the popularity of the fax services.

Unified employment contract

DR YAQUB Al Sharrah, the Assistant Undersecretary for Private Education at Kuwait's Education Ministry, said the technical committee at the Private Education Department has nearly completed the proposed unified employment contract form to be used by private schools in recruiting teachers.

He added that the committee was still studying the unification of tuition fees at private Arab and foreign schools, saying he hoped this would be completed within the next month.

28 kg of chicken per head per year

A SPECIAL study conducted by the Food Resources Department at Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research shows that the average consumption of chicken per person in Kuwait was 28 kilos per year and the consumption of red meat was 37.5 kilos. Sixty per cent of the red meat consumed, the study showed, was imported, and 40 per cent of the poultry consumed was provided by local companies.

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هذا هو الحدث

VIDEO CORNER

Nice children, shame about the parents

By Shaun Seekins

IT certainly makes a change to have a new 1987 Cowboys and Indians film available, although in the case of the Education of Allison Tate the cowboys are living in California and the Indians just seem like any other angry young men and women. I am sure that the idea of this thriller was to focus attention on the plight of the North American Indian. In fact it turns out to be just a thriller and a good one at that.

The story starts out with the wife of a rich wheeler-dealer agreeing to sponsor a young tennis hopeful. As it turns out she expects much more from him than just tennis. Whilst he and a new chauffeur are on their way to school with the daughter they are all kidnapped by a small hunting party of modern day Red Indians.

It turns out that Daddy is involved in some land deal that is driving the natives and squaws off their government given land, for the simple reason that in attempting to provide the tribe with some irrigation the nasty pelefases struck oil. Speaking with the traditional forked tongue Daddy points out to Mummy, when the ransom demand arrives, that there are hundreds of millions of dollars involved here. Much as we love our daughter, let's not get too hasty.

Meanwhile, in another complication a young gay is discovered in the hideout where he has attempted to commit suicide, and only the desperate efforts of the group manage to

save him. Things take an even greater turn for the worse when an innocent shopping trip results in the death of the leader's girlfriend. Ultimately, of course Allison is won around to the Indian cause though it is difficult to see why since Cheyenne's portrayal of an angry young brave is most unsympathetic.

Home Front is a cautionary tale for parents who may be too bound up in their own yuppie career to notice their kids. Also one for all kids who have at any time felt that their parents take them for granted but don't understand them. It would be just another tale about rich kids in America creating havoc and discovering the opposite sex, but it is saved from that fate by an excellent script and some quite brilliant one-liners.

Morgan has spent all his life going from one boarding school to another in the hope that eventually his misdemeanors will force his parents to run out of schools and they will have to take him home. Dad is a successful senator driven by Mum's energy and single-mindedness and they don't have room in their lives for a son. As Morgan points out, as far as she is concerned his birth was the result of one sperm busting through her diaphragm like a piranha fish just to screw her life up. However, things have suddenly changed and Mom wants Morgan home. It is only when he gets there that he discovers that his presence is only needed to improve the family image in a new political campaign. Morgan meets the scheming Jay who helps run his

father's political life, and the frightening daughter of a fellow campaigner whom he is expected to date. What keeps him sane is the friendship of the Russian butler and the chance meeting with a girl who shares his passion for horror films. However, when his parents find out he has been on a date with a "wrong" girl he is grounded. Starring Lyna Redgrave, Jon Cryer and Paul Gleason, it's a lot of fun for everyone.

Nightriders is a rather strange surreal film starring Ed Harris in the role of the leader of a group of people who travel around the United States acting out the parts of Knight and Damsels in their interpretation of a modern day Camelot. It all seems rather idyllic until a nasty sheriff's deputy comes along looking for some easy money. They refuse to oblige and this sets off a chain of events that looks as though it will destroy their peaceful existence.

There is some fantastic stunt motorbike riding as instead of horses the Knights use trial bikes as their mounts.

Basketball continues with games between Lakers vs Warriors, Bulls vs Celtics, Lakers vs Sonics and Rockets vs Bucks. The Super Bowl should be here by the week-end together with the very exciting men's Tennis finals from Australia. Dallas continues together with two new cassettes of Eastenders.

The above films are available from VFI, Safeway, Farwanika, Video Neuf, Salmiya, Tel: 2432808; and Video Club, Salmiya, Tel: 5724372.



Kidnap by the Indians in a modern hunting party.

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Al Nimir Wal Unsa (Arabic)
Starring: Adel Imam, Athar Al Hakim
Al Salmiya
The Living Daylights
Starring: Timothy Dalton

Al Hamra
Out Of Bounds
Starring: Anthony M. Hall, Gini Ret
Drive-In
Al Nimir Wal Unsa (Arabic)
Starring: Adel Imam, Athar Al Hakim
Al Firdous
Uttar Dakshin
Starring: Jackie Shroff, Madhuri Dixit, Rajnikant

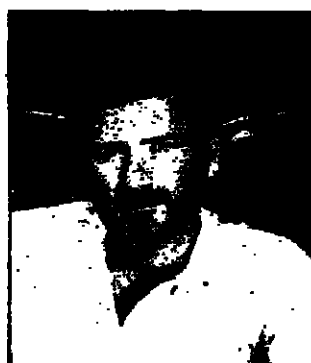
Fahsheel Open-Air
Hifazat
Al Fahsheel
Jazari Al Wohoush (Arabic)
Al Jahra
Da Marg Saudagar
Granada
Al Baih Al Bawab (Arabic)
Salaikhikhat
January Opunorma (Malayalam)
Al Jleeb
Running Scared
Ahmadi Drive-In
Al Gajariya Al Ashika (Arabic)

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 2.15 Opening and Holy Quran
2.30 World Today Via Satellite
3.20 Cartoon Serial
4.05 Magazine D'Actualite
4.20 Nour El Din Zanki
5.20 Bain Al Ams Wa Al Youm: Between Yesterday and Today is a local programme for children. Today's episode looks at the advent of the car and how it became a part of life in this country. Children between the ages of 11 and 14 present the show.
6.00 Students programme
7.20 We are your friends
7.40 Laubat Shabiya: Folklore, prepared and presented by Mohammad Al Mutairi.
8.15 Good Evening Programme
9.00 News in Arabic
10.05 Arabic daily serial
11.05 1987 Jerash Festival: a variety show featuring top performers from

the Arab World and the Tunisian Folklore Troupe.
12.20 News in brief
12.25 World Today via satellite
1.05 Closedown



Robert Foxworth stars in Falcon Crest

KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 The Get Along Gang: Cartoons
6.30 Micro at Work: "Where Are You Going?" A look at computer systems in

- administration.
6.50 The Living Isles: "Time and Tide." A look at the fluctuations in the sea level.
7.30 Growing Pains: "Choices." Carol has trouble selecting a career.
8.00 News in English
8.40 Buck James: "Too Close To Home." The former wife of James seeks treatment at the hospital. Starring: Dennis Weaver in the title role.
9.30 The World of Strange Power: "Fairies, Phantoms and..."
10.00 Perfect Strangers: "Since I lost My Baby." A family friend comes to stay with Larry and Balki.
10.30 Falcon Crest: Slavros and Kitt Marlow are arrested; Melissa runs away with Maggie's son and Eric is disinherited.
12.00 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

PRAYERS

Fajr	5.15 am
Zuhr	12.02
Asr	3.07 pm
Maghreb	5.27
Isha	6.47

Comedy hit in Ahmadi

By Keith Wells

KUWAIT Little Theatre's production of Say Who You Are lives up to its promise and provides a wonderful evening's entertainment. The play itself is filled with shrewd and witty insights into the complex state of matrimony and many of the lines strike a familiar chord in the audience.

The first night got off to a slow start, but as the plot unfolded, the audience warmed up, and soon the laughs were coming thick and fast. By the latter half of the first act the audience were rocking with laughter as the jokes cracked along. Dave Burfoot and Jo Bywaters were particularly well matched, their dialogues flickering back and forth with superb timing.

It's the second time these two have been cast as husband and wife and judging by the way they bicker, they seem to have a

perfectly credible matrimonial relationship.

The other couple, played by Patrick Flower and Elaine Page were equally well matched and created some hilarious moments. Elaine, in particular, has an incredible expressive face and a modulated voice that is perfectly suited to light comedy.

It seems that all marital rows are fundamentally the same, and this cast, after a while, just they noticed several members of the audience flinching at some of the more stinging lines.

With such a small cast it is hard to keep the interest at such a consistently high level and a real tribute to all of them that the pace never flagged as the rows and reconciliations, misunderstandings and attempted deceptions crackled right along.

Although there were some moments of pure farce, in the

main the play is firmly anchored in a very real situation, the plot has lots of neat parallels and unexpected contrasts that all revolve around the central theme of marital infidelity.

The only unconvincing part, for me at least, was when the two girls are alone and discuss the trouble with men. At that point it seemed just a little too obvious that the play was written by two men, who didn't really know what women talk about when there are no men around. However, that's a small complaint in what was a highly enjoyable evening.

Director Stephen Prescott paced his production very nicely and used a couple of sight gags to superb effect. He deserves special credit since it is the first time he has ever directed a play, let's hope it isn't the last.



Jo Bywaters and Patrick Flower commiserating over a quiet drink.

WHAT'S ON

SOCIAL

Kuwait Society for the Handicapped

The society is holding an open souk, featuring everything from silk to grocery, silk-ware to rugs and toys, for two weeks. It will be open daily from 8 am to 12 noon and 3 to 7 pm at the society's premises, behind Andalus Cinema, on Cairo Street, until Feb 15.

Greek Get-together

The Greek Embassy will hold a get-together to celebrate the Vassilopita on Friday, Feb 5, from 6.30 to 8 pm at the school premises of the Embassy of Greece in Surra. All members of the Greek community are invited. For details phone 5335861.

Canadian Women's League
The next meeting will be held on Saturday, Feb 6, from 4 to 6 pm. For venue and further details ring 3718678.

Kuwait Welsh Society
Annual St David's Day dinner at Messiah Beach Hotel on Tuesday, March 1. For tickets and further details phone 4874548; 3910875; 3912384.

Kapilku membership
Filipinos are invited to join Kapilku. Membership cards are available at the Philippine Embassy. For details call Jojo — 4877793.

Flassik
Flassik will hold a Valentine dinner-musical at 6.30 pm Feb 12, Friday, at Al Dira Ballroom, Ramada Al Salam Hotel. Free transport will be provided from the Church from 6 pm. For tickets ring 2439451, Mabuhay or Lords Restaurants.

Kuwait Singers
Rehearsals for the May concert are held at 7.30 pm every Saturday and Monday. New members welcome. Tel: 5331413.

Goan Show
The Goan Community will hold a cultural show to celebrate the 40th anniversary of India's independence on Feb 5, 3.30 pm at the Indian Arts Circle. Finalists. Invitation cards available from the Football Club, Kuwait Goans Association, N.G.O.A. and organisers. Transport will be available at 2.30 pm on Friday (Feb 5) from the Church in Kuwait City, Abbasiya Coop, and Farwaniya, main road (opp. Grand Stores).

The Kuwait Players

Tap dancing auditions will take place at the Universal American School on Monday, 8th February, 1988 at 7.30 pm for the play "Stepping Out" to be directed by Ken Winston. Final casting to take place at same venue on Thursday 11th February, 1988 at 3 pm. Anyone interested in this production is invited to attend, or contact Ken Winston on 5385075 after 4 pm, or Glenis Muckle, Producer on 5730641.

ACT
Any Texans or adopted Texans interested in helping with ACT's March Texas Independence Day Party are requested to contact 5725071; 2428366 or 5639204.

Daniella
All Danes are invited to "Fastelavn" party at the Gazette Club at 1 pm on Friday, Feb. 12. For reservations contact Connie — 3947693; Karen-Marie — 3946725 before Feb. 9.

Japan Week
A seminar on Japanese business will be held at the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce Building from 8.30 am to 5.30 pm. For further details, tel. 2533000 ext 1156.

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KUWAIT - FAHSEEL - SALMIYA - AHMADI

EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

THERE is no greater folly in the world than for a man to despair — Miguel Cervantes, Spanish writer (1547-1616).

OPINION

Support uprising

ALL indicators affirm that the revolution in the occupied territories is well on its way to organising itself in such a way that the requirements needed to continue the revolution will be provided and the desired goal achieved.

All signs show that the revolution is forming a political leadership capable of establishing itself, after Arab and Palestinian leaderships failed to restore Palestinian lands and rights.

During the past 40 years, the Israelis neglected everything, including the advice of friends like US and Western Europe. Israel was successful in convincing these friends, which also included other countries of the West, and the Soviet Union, that Israel could deal with the Palestinians and that the Palestinian people would not dare revolt.

Israel thought that its confrontation was with a number of organisations outside of Palestine, which put Palestinian affairs aside and involved themselves with Arab affairs, adding to them their own disputes, since each had its own way of liberating Palestine. Some of these organisations think the liberation of Palestine will be through Cannes in France, others think it will go to Jerusalem through certain Arab regimes with whom they differ ideologically. A third group looks to the liberation of Palestine to be orchestrated by certain Arab regimes who have similar views on liberation.

But now, Israel is involved in a new confrontation with those whom it has oppressed for 40 years. It now faces the sons of those who were left to die under tents and harsh economic and health conditions.

Israel thought this new generation had forgotten the oppression witnessed by their mothers and fathers. They thought this generation was unaware of the oppression under which they lived. Israel ignored the advice of the whole world, following the way of greed, and is now paying the price.

The revolution, which intensifies daily, will not be stopped by Israeli rifles. And if this revolution is still searching for leadership, it will certainly be found from within Palestine.

If this dynamic movement is to continue, it must have the sympathy and support of the peoples of the Arab world, who should direct their support to Palestine itself and not to any other place, for fear of repeating the misery of waiting 40 years more.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

Doomsday, not yet

By Larry Doyle

CHICAGO, (UPI) — In six minutes: Doomsday. The skies will burn and life will end.

That's the bottom line, meta-phorically speaking.

For 40 years, the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists has published on its cover the face of a clock ticking away toward midnight. Internationally recognised as the voice of reasonable alarm, the Bulletin's doomsday clock serves as a simple and direct symbol of the dangers of this nuclear age.

Six minutes to midnight is how it stands now. Frightening, but an improvement.

During the hydrogen bomb tests of the 1950s, it stood as close as two minutes.

For the past 15 years, until the signing of a treaty eliminating an entire class of nuclear weapons in December, it had been moving ever closer to the zero hour.

Between 1984 and 1987, the doomsday clock was poised at three minutes to the end.

Party

But in January, the noted and Nobel laureate scientists who determine the movement of the clock decided it was time for a change in direction. Citing the Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces (INF) treaty, "the improvement in superpower relations, and the increase in international and non-governmental efforts to reverse the arms race," they pushed the minute hand back three notches, doubling the distance to Armageddon.

The staff of the Bulletin threw a party.

"It's been a long time, since The Salt Treaty in 1972, that there was any reason to celebrate," says Nancy Myers, the Bulletin's managing editor. "For the first time in a long time, we have a reason to hope."

Neither the Bulletin nor its clock started on such a note. The physicist who started the project had recently completed another one — the Manhattan Project — and they were filled with a rare sort of fear fuelled by knowledge rather than ignorance.

"We were the only guys who knew what was going on, and it frightened the hell out of us," says John Simpson, a space scientist with the Enrico Fermi Institute in Chicago and founding chairman of the Atomic

Scientists.

"The Army kept telling us they were going to educate the public about the bomb, the government kept telling us, but of course they never did," Simpson says. "So we had to take it upon ourselves."

From the beginning, the scientists had a certain amount of celebrity on which to launch their educational campaign — Albert Einstein, Edward Teller, and J. Robert Oppenheimer were all original participants. The magazine's list of 45 sponsoring scientists boasts 16 Nobel prize winners, including Linus Pauling, the first man to win two prizes, one for chemistry and one for peace.

Symbol

But within a couple years, Simpson says, it became clear that the weighty, intellectual articles of the Bulletin were lost on the general public.

"The American public doesn't want to know the details, they just want to know the bottom line," he says. "So we gave them the clock, the absolute bottom line."

Myers agrees. "A good concrete symbol is worth thousands and thousands of words," she says.

The Bulletin's slogan for the clock: "We tell the world what time it is."

Simpson says he cannot recall all of the arguments that went into originally placing the clock at seven minutes to midnight, though he believes "we were actually somewhat optimistic starting there."

But, he adds, "the actual position of the clock is not an exact thing — it's a judgement, not based on any mathematical formula — and where it stands is not as important as the direction it's going. It gives a sense of how we're doing as a species."

Although the position of the clock is discussed twice a year at board meetings, it has only been changed a dozen times since 1947 and it has not changed easily. As Eugene Rabinowitch, a co-founder of the Bulletin, once said, the clock "is not intended to reflect the momentary international situation but the trend of human society toward or away from nuclear catastrophe."

Yet, the clock has moved four times since 1980: from nine, to seven, to four, to three, and then, fortunately, a move back.



Nguyen Van Linh

Bicycles, the country's main mode of public transport



Purchasing shirts in Hanoi

Reforms better than revolutionary zeal

By Denis D. Gray

BANGKOK (AP) — Pragmatic reform is replacing revolutionary zeal in Vietnam, which has built a powerful military machine but failed to cope with massive peacetime problems.

Spearheaded by an ageing but vigorous Communist Party chief nicknamed "The little Gorbachev," Vietnam is trying to purge domestic diehards, make friends in the West and struggle out of the world's economic cellar.

It has also shown signs of greater flexibility on the pivotal issue of pulling its forces out of Kampuchea.

The avowed aim of the liberalisation drive — which apparently has some staunch opponents at home — is to bring respite from decades of incessant warfare, economic deprivation and dramatic reverses.

Twenty years ago, in 1968, the Vietnamese communists launched the daring and bloody Tet offensive that turned the Indochina war in their favour.

Pariah

Ten years ago, in 1978, they were cast out of the plight of the "boat people," their political re-education camps and seeming

On Jan 31, 1968, Viet Cong and North Vietnamese forces launched the Tet offensive, changing the course of the Vietnam war and sowing the seeds of their victory seven years later.

indifference to the general suffering of the population. Late that year, the now-unified nation was branded an international pariah after its troops invaded Kampuchea.

But in December 1986, when several old line leaders in Hanoi stepped down after admitting to ruinous economic policies, Vietnam launched its own brand of Soviet "glasnost" and restructuring. Many Western visitors say "the new openness" is bringing remarkable changes to a society of Stalinist economics, secret police and closed doors.

Admonishing his fellow communists to "look squarely at the truth," the Communist Party's new secretary-general, 72-year-old Nguyen Van Linh, is fostering private enterprise, decentralising some decision-making and carrying out a sweeping purge of entrenched state and party bureaucracies.

He personally writes a muck-raking newspaper column. And while Vietnam remains an authoritarian, one-party state, he has

loosened a previous stranglehold on the media, which now single out corrupt officials, consumer complaints and even problems within the once-touchable military.

Release

A large number of inmates were released last year from so-called re-education camps that at one time held as many as 200,000 members of the fallen South Vietnamese government and assorted dissidents. Hanoi claims that only 1,000 remain in what some have branded the "Vietnamese gulag" although there are indications the number may be somewhat higher.

The new leadership is also opening doors to the non-communist world, hoping to attract capital and technology — and possibly lessen its dependence on the Soviet Union in the process.

Early this year, Hanoi unveiled what may be the most liberal foreign investment code in the communist world. Its prov-

isions guarantee a full repatriation of profits and no limit on the amount of joint venture equity held by foreign investors.

Over the past six months, Hanoi has made a special effort to woo Washington, promising to continue the search for Americans missing in action and allowing a stream of US journalists, congressmen and academics to enter the country.

However, Washington remains adamant that it will not establish diplomatic relations or do business with Hanoi unless substantial progress is made on the missing Americans and unless 140,000 Vietnamese troops are withdrawn from Kampuchea.

Hanoi has promised a total pullout from Kampuchea by 1990, and US State Department officials say they have noted "new movement" in the search for a political solution to the conflict. But strong skepticism remains about Vietnam's intentions. And the nine-year-long guerrilla war continues, even

though a leading economic adviser, Nguyen Xuan Oanh, has said the conflicts have "drained our resources."

Inflation

More than 1.1 million Vietnamese have left the country since the war ended, many of them braving stormy seas and pirates in rickety boats. Currently the United Nations-sponsored orderly departure programme has more than 650,000 applications on file from those who want to seek new lives abroad, majority of them in the United States.

Vietnam's woes also include an inflation rate that runs in the hundreds of per cent, a pre-World War II infrastructure in the north and a deeply rooted disgruntlement in the south which fuels the continued exodus of refugees.

In Hanoi, the spartan capital, the fortunate have taken advantage of changing times to open small private business. Those on meagre state salaries line up at

sparsely stocked government stores and must save for months for a pair of pants. Countrywide, the annual per capita income is roughly \$200 — one of the world's lowest — and malnutrition is widespread.

"We are embarking on the 1988 plan with little improvement in material conditions," admitted top economic planner Vo Van Kiet. He noted the amount of food available per person was down eight per cent down since 1985. Vietnam has a population of 62 million in a land the size of Norway, and the population grows by some one million each year.

Linh still faces stubborn opposition from both old guard party men weaned on revolution and wars as well as from inefficient managers who stand to lose their jobs under a new incentive system.

In addition to changes of attitude, Vietnamese officials agree the nation will need about \$2 billion a year in Soviet aid.

But this aid, which the Soviets themselves have accused Hanoi of squandering, has proved inefficient and the signs are few that the West will take up the slack until Hanoi changes its foreign policies.

Businessmen leap ahead as politicians wrangle

Building a more common Common Market

By Robert Burns

BRUSSELS, (AP) — Fed up with the economic cost of a fragmented Europe, businessmen are leading a drive to build a more common Common Market.

While the European politicians try to remove national rules and regulations and unify the continent by 1992, corporate chieftains are moving far faster to bring their companies together for bigger profits.

Begun

Convinced that a fragmented marketplace has kept them behind the United States and Japan in the global economic race, businessmen big and small think it is already time for a new, more free-wheeling economy where national frontiers no longer hinder the flow of money and trade.

"I really sense the need to build Europe, and I anticipate it happening," says Carlo de Benedetti, president of the Italian computer

giant Olivetti SPA and one of Europe's most successful captains of commerce.

The transformation has already begun on a modest scale, spurred by the European Economic Community's campaign to create a "borderless Europe" — a unified market free of internal trade barriers by 1992.

The aim is to build an integrated economy. That goal is enshrined in the EEC's founding treaty 31 years ago but has been blocked by a seemingly immovable thicket of national standards and local regulations.

Beyond the economic significance of the EEC campaign lies a more deep-rooted hope in many European countries that economic integration can serve as a new impulse to creating a European political union.

For now, the main selling point is the material gains that economic integration would bring. The EEC estimates that fragmentation of the economy add 10 per cent to the cost of consumer goods made in Europe

and clips about \$30 billion a year from business profits.

'Uncommon'

In today's "uncommon market," as critics call it, national rules often fly in the face of European ideals and hamper the free flow of goods and services.

For example:

- Life insurance companies can't sell policies outside their national borders; although plans to change this are on the drawing board. Banks and other financial enterprises also face stiff restrictions.

- National technical standards are so out of sync that producers of electric shavers, for instance, have to make a dozen different types in order to meet the requirements of all member countries.

- Individuals cannot open bank accounts in the currency of another EEC country.

- There is no uniform system under which countries recognise one another's professional standards or the validity of academic

diplomats.

Yet in recent months, momentum behind the integration move has begun to build. Sensing this, de Benedetti and other "Eurocapitalists" are pressing hard for a still faster pace of change.

Some are using the powers of persuasion. Last summer, a delegation of high-powered industrialists led by Umberto Agnelli, chairman of the Italian carmaker Fiat, told officials at EEC headquarters in Brussels that unless trade barriers fell faster, investments would be redirected outside Europe.

Mergers

De Benedetti and others have taken a different tack. Instead of waiting for the politicians to blaze the trail, they are swiftly tying the region together through a network of cross-border mergers and alliances. This requires a wary eye on anti-trust authorities in different countries, who have no unified rules and could have different views of a proposed acquisition or merger.

Having already gained an industrial and financial foothold in France, Spain, Britain and Switzerland through a network of partnerships, de Benedetti has targeted Belgium as the ultimate centre of his empire.

De Benedetti struck a dramatic blow for European economic integration on Jan 18, when he announced an offer to buy, through one of his French companies, effective control of Societe Generale de Belgique, a monolithic holding company whose influence is so pervasive that the Italian's bid was seen by some as an affront to national sovereignty.

"We have to make sure we retain in our country some leverage over our own economy," said Mark Eyskens, the Belgian Finance Minister, who stepped in to persuade de Benedetti to slow his assault.

Sign

De Benedetti says he wants to put together the first truly European-size enterprise that by 1992 would be poised to operate as easily across national frontiers within the EEC as, say, General Motors Corp. or Coca-Cola Co. do business cross state lines in the United States.

The final outcome of the battle for Belgium, as it has been called only half-jokingly, may not be known for months. But it already stands as the clearest sign yet that European business leaders have eclipsed governments in the drive for a more unified market.

"It is industry that will actually

build the Common Market," said Basil de Ferranti, chairman of the British electronics company Ferranti Plc.

While European companies are still investing heavily in the United States — particularly since the dollar began sliding nearly three years ago — the momentum toward pan-European industrial alliances is growing rapidly. Examples are evident throughout the region.

Motive

Last year, the electronics groups NV Philips of Holland and General Electric Co. of Britain merged their medical technology divisions. France's Thomson Computer Company merged its semi-conductor business with Italy's SGS, and the state-owned Pechiney of France has agreed to match its copper business with Societa Metallurgica Italiana.

The main motive is to avoid losing out to American and Japanese competitors.

"The achievement of the 'great market' is ... vital if Europe is to stay in the economic race with the United States and Japan," says Willy de Clercq, a Belgian who is the EEC's top international trade official.

Failure to tear down trade barriers within Europe would be costly, he said.

"Europe would lose the competition battle at world level, with all the disastrous consequences this involves for employment and our standard of living."

A circulation war in Soviet Union

By Paul Quinn-Judge

MOSCOW: Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's policy of glasnost (openness) has caused something close to a circulation war among the Soviet news media.

"For the first time since the '20s, Soviet papers and journals are competing against each other," says literary specialist Nikolai Anastasyev.

Most Soviet readers subscribe to their newspapers and magazines rather than buying them on the street. The government's decision to drop fixed ceilings on circulations this year caused subscriptions for some journals and newspapers to soar — particularly those periodicals that have been most daring in their discussion of present political and social issues.

Cool

The more conservative papers and journals have on the whole fared less well. The most surprising loser is Pravda, the main Communist Party newspaper. Its circulation has dropped from last year's figures by 300,000 to 10.7 million.

Pravda is viewed by some Soviet observers as one of the more conservative newspapers when it comes to perestroika (restructuring). A week ago, for example, the paper published an attack by the head of its propaganda department on the new anti-Stalinist play of dramatist Mikhail Shatrov.

Viktor Afanasyev, Pravda's editor since 1976, is a political survivor. Some of his colleagues feel he is cool to radical reform.

"If perestroika works, Afanasyev will be out," says a senior Soviet journalist. "If it doesn't work, I'll be out."

Izvestia, the second most important Soviet newspaper, is fast catching up with Pravda.

The government daily has increased its circulation over last year by almost 2-1/2 million, to more than 10 million. Under the editorship of Ivan Lavtsev, the paper has developed a reputation for lively and often hard-hitting articles.

The biggest loser appears to be the monthly Foreign Literature, which has lost ground as readers turn their attention to Soviet writers whose works would, until very recently, have been unpublished here.

Down by 70,000 to 400,000 from last year, the journal is toying with a daring way of winning back subscribers — publishing "Lolita," Vladimir Nabokov's novel, which was the subject of an obscenity trial when it appeared in the United States in the 1950s.

One of the most outspoken magazines, the popular weekly Ogonyok, has scored only a partial victory in the circulation battle. It has acquired more than 750,000 new subscribers this year.

Difficult

But the casual reader will find Ogonyok even harder to buy on the newsstand. The magazine's overall subscription is increasing by only 270,000, to 1.77 million. More than 1.3 million copies will go to subscribers. This leaves only 400,000 copies a week for retail sale nationwide.

Staff members say they could easily sell more retail copies. But

a representative of the magazine said that Ogonyok did not have a right to increase its circulation: responsibility for this lay with its "bosses" in the Pravda group.

The outspoken weekly Moscow News reports an increase in its foreign-language circulation. But only 250,000 copies will be available in Russian inside the Soviet Union.

Another sometimes controversial publication, Sovetskaya Kultura, is increasing its output by more than 10 per cent — double its recent annual average increases.

The paper was the subject of a special meeting last year with Yegor Ligachev, the second-ranking Soviet leader, last year.

"I don't think he went there because he was a big fan of the paper," a Soviet journalist commented.

The two leading literary and political journals, Novy Mir and Znamya, have doubled their circulations. Novy Mir's new circulation is about one million; Znamya's January print run was 500,000.

Both journals have led the way in publishing long-forbidden works of some of the greatest modern Russian writers.

They have also published some of the most powerful discussions of the need for economic and political change.

The biggest winner in the circulation stakes, however, is Druzhba Narodov, a less-fashionable journal. Its circulation in January jumped from 150,000 to 800,000.

The main reason for this seems to be one man — Anatoly Rybakov, whose "Children of the Arbat," the novel about a

group of people growing up during dictator Joseph Stalin's purge years, was the big hit of 1987.

In a phone interview, Rybakov said that he was still working on the novel, but that he expected the rest of it to appear in the magazine late this year.

Sceptical

Asked whether his new novel was the cause of the circulation increase, he answered: "Of course."

Two magazines that have failed to benefit from the renewed interest in reading are the monthlies Nash Sovremennik and Molodaya Gvardiya.

Both have taken a more sceptical view of the changes in politics and literature.

Molodaya Gvardiya last year was involved in rancorous polemics with the weekly Ogonyok. It also published comments that were construed by some readers as support for Pamyat, an extremist political organisation.

The November, the magazine's editor expressed unhappiness at his colleagues' haste to publish works by "newly appeared geniuses" like Osip Mandelstam (who died in Stalin's camp in 1938).

Molodaya Gvardiya reports a "small increase" in circulation this year.

At least one newspaper reports little if any change this year. The circulation of the armed-forces newspaper Krasnaya Zvezda (Red Star), which rarely makes for exciting reading, will remain "almost constant" in 1988, a staff member said.

The Christian Science Monitor.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1591 — Formation of the German Protestant League of Torgau under Christian I of Saxony. John Casimir of the Palatinate, 1660 — General George Monck leads his army into London.
- 1831 — Revolutionary outbreaks in Modena, Parma and papal states, influenced by French Revolution.
- 1830 — Greece is declared independent under protection of France, Russia and Britain at London conference.
- 1848 — Britain's Sir Harry Smith annexes country between Orange and Vaal Rivers in South Africa.
- 1894 — The Dringo, first steel sailing ship, is launched at Bath, Maine, in United States.
- 1913 — Bulgarians resume war with Turkey.
- 1943 — British bombers pound German city of Hamburg in World War II.
- 1945 — US forces recapture Manila in Philippines from Japanese in World War II.
- 1964 — China challenges leadership of Soviet Union in communist world.
- 1966 — Unmanned Soviet spaceship makes soft landing on moon and begins sending signals back to earth.
- 1969 — Dr Eduardo Mondlane, President of Mozambique National Liberation Front, is assassinated by time bomb in Tanzania.
- 1973 — Fighting in Vietnam comes to virtual halt after formal ceasefire goes into effect.
- 1977 — General Tafari Banti, Ethiopia's chief of state, is killed in gun battle that breaks out around Addis Ababa headquarters of nation's feuding military leaders.
- 1984 — Infertile woman in California, USA, hospital becomes what is believed to be world's first person to give birth to baby from donated embryo.
- 1987 — Soviet government, in crackdown on corruption, announces arrest of the late Leonid Brezhnev's son-in-law on charges of taking bribes.

ملكو العرب

By Kathy Cuddihy

THE next time I meet someone with whom I think I could become friendly, I'm going to conduct a brief survey before committing myself to the relationship. While the exercise may seem a little tacky to some folk, in the long run it will surely save me frustration and disappointment. By weeding out the chaff from the wheat, I can look forward to enjoying long, happy friendships. Here are a few sample questions:

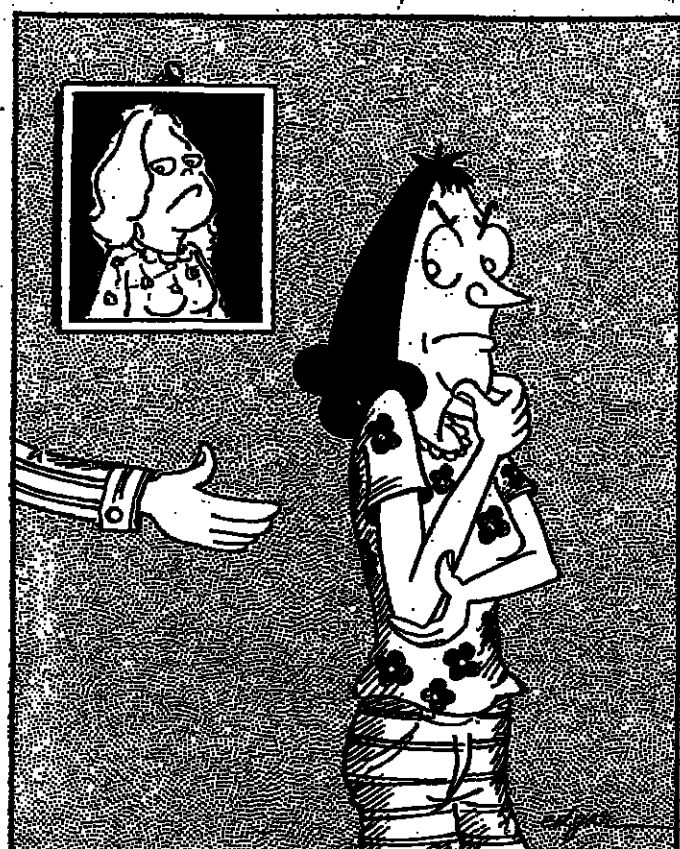
1. Do you like to entertain?

Every so often I meet someone who's a great guest — witty, vivacious, and says all the right things about my cooking, even when it's a disaster. Her only fault is that she never, but never, reciprocates. I'd like to think it's because she either can't cook, is embarrassed for anyone to see how/where she lives, has some other dark secret to hide, or simply becomes apologetic at the thought of entertaining. After awhile, though, I just can't help but suspect that she likes coming to my house but hates me! This kind of friend I don't need.

2. If you have kids, do you allow their friends into your house to play?

Are my kids totally obnoxious in other people's houses or am I just a pushover when the gang is looking for a place to tune out, eat up, and sleep in. My neighbours used to be convinced that I had at least 6 children, although it did confuse them that most of the faces changed periodically. One little boy in particular used to spend most of his time at our house. I fed him, cleaned him, picked up after him, and helped him with his homework, but when his mother called to remind me

The friendship format



that her son had a doctor's appointment the next day and that I should ask the doctor to refill his prescription, I put my foot down. Nice kid, so-so mother, but this kind of relationship I don't need.

Do you return things you borrow?

One of our neighbours tried very hard to be a nice person. She entered occasionally and she allowed other kids into her house. But she still managed to alienate almost everyone who knew her. Apart from the fact that she wasn't playing with a full deck of cards, her big downfall was her incurable habit of borrowing and not returning. The entire neighbourhood inadvertently kept her adequately stocked with

most of life's basic necessities and a few luxuries as well. Getting them back was a full-time occupation and trying to refuse to lend them in the first place was almost as challenging.

"My mom wants to borrow your ladder."

"We don't own a ladder."

"My mom said you'd probably say that. She says to tell you that it's beside the trellis in the garden. She checked this afternoon."

they never put pen to paper except to sign their credit card slips. It's hard enough to say goodbye to a special friend when she leaves to live in another part of the world, but it's a crucial blow when she gives me her address and says shyly, "I'm not a letter writer, you know. But I would love to have you keep in touch." Charming. If I want to spend my time writing letters to someone I know won't reply, I'll correspond with my bank manager. With him I might get lucky.

Although I never get an answer, I do keep asking myself, what is the point in making the effort to establish a very special friendship only to find that it relies on the spoken word? One friend uses her 5-1/2 children (she's pregnant with number 6) as an excuse but, in terms of energy output, I'd pit my 2 against her 5 any day. Another favourite defence is, "Well, I will be going back into the job market when I go home." Does this mean that being employed automatically eliminates the ability to write? And what does she think I do with my time, sit and write friendly letters all day?

Sad experience is forcing me to believe that all the very nicest people just don't write letters. (I'm a great correspondent, so you know exactly what kind of person I am!)

Perhaps in the interest of being realistic, I should add one more question to the survey: Do you make long-distance phone calls (without calling collect)? I could probably recoup some of the expense by buying shares in our local telephone company. I wonder if they entertain shareholders?

Harlem: New York's unlikely tourist spot

By Leila S. Philip

NEW YORK: Harlem. The place you end up when you don't know the subway and accidentally board the uptown express instead of the local. An area Manhattan cabdrivers shun and most non-residents avoid at dark. Nobody takes a guided tour of Harlem, right? True, for the average New Yorker, perhaps. But whether despite its negative image or because of it, the number of tourists traveling to Harlem has been growing, from an estimated 1,000 in 1983 to almost 10,000 this year. Visitors from around the globe — especially from France, Britain, Canada, and Japan — pour into New York daily with bookings to visit this black and hispanic community.

They come to walk the newly renovated strip along 12th Street and to hear the blues and jazz, the "soul music" that put Harlem on the map as the hottest nightclub district in New York during the jazz age of the 1920s. Or to dine on "soul food," Southern-style spareribs, black-eyed peas, and corn bread, in restaurants like Sylvia's on West 128th Street.

On Sunday mornings, tour buses line up outside the Metropolitan Baptist Church, waiting for tour groups that have traveled uptown to experience the booming sound of gospel-choir church music. "When I say that I run a Harlem tour company, people stare at me. They say, 'What are you doing in Harlem? What do you show? What places do you go to?' People are so scared!" says Muriel Samama, a slim Frenchwoman who runs Harlem Spirituals Inc., a tour company specializing in guided walking tours and package trips to Harlem.

Although wandering through Harlem at night is not advisable, traveling in a group by day, through the well-known areas, is considered safe. For newcomers to New York, group travel may be the most relaxing and secure way to first see this section.

Most tour guides agree that Americans are more wary than foreigners of traveling to Harlem, even on a tour.

Americans are not that keen on black culture, but Europeans and Japanese are," says Miss Samama. "Europeans are interested in it for the cultural aspects. And Harlem is like a myth. It's something forbidden, something where you can never go by yourself, so they really want to see it."

Despite its negative image or because of it, the number of tourists travelling to Harlem has been steadily growing. Visitors from all over the world especially from France, Britain, Canada and Japan pour into New York daily with bookings to visit this Black and Hispanic community.



Children play on a Harlem street lined with renovated brownstones.

Founded in 1981, Harlem Spirituals Inc. began with tours of Sunday morning gospel choir music. It now employs five local guides and includes three main tours: "Harlem on Sunday" for gospel choir music, "Harlem on Weekdays" for dinner and a visit to a jazz club, and "Harlem by Night," which features a tour, dinner, and an evening at a nightclub. Prices range from \$25 to \$60 per person.

According to Samama, business has grown rapidly in the last year. Eighty per cent of her tourists come from Europe, 10 per cent from Japan, and the remaining 10 per cent from the United States.

An agency named Harlem,

Your Way! offers guided tours by foot, bicycle, bus, or even limousine through almost any part of the diverse uptown neighbourhoods. Nine bus companies, including Grayline, now run regular bus trips through Harlem. And for the adventurous independent traveler, a guidebook called "Harlem Today: A Cultural and Visitors Guide was published last year, by Gumbs & Thomas Publishers Inc.

"Harlem has a very bad image because it's gotten such bad press," says Larcia Kebe, president of Harlem, Your Way! "But I want visitors on my tours to get out. We walk around. I want them to feel the rhythm of the people so they

don't go away with such negative experiences."

"People have such weird notions of Harlem," comments Benjamin Jones, director of the Harlem Visitors and Convention Center. "People are either fearful of it, or they totally romanticise it. To a lot of people, Harlem is just a slum. But there are lots of elegant homes. Harlem is a geographic area, but it also can be talked about as a state of mind. It's a community which stands for a lot of things that people take to heart. It's the black capital and the home of jazz."

Geographically speaking, Harlem stretches from 96th Street on the south to 170th Street on the north, and from the Harlem River on the east to the Hudson River on the west. Often mistakenly used as a synonym for New York's black and hispanic communities, Harlem is an interracial and multi-ethnic community. Between 1870 and 1920, the population of Jews, Germans, Italians, and Irish in Harlem actually outnumbered the blacks. Still today, of the approximately 2 million black people living in New York City, only about 250,000 actually live in Harlem; a much larger black community resides in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brooklyn.

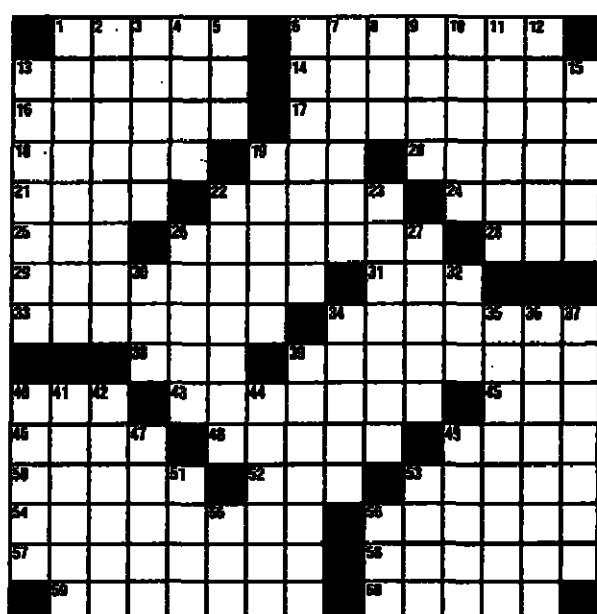
"In everything I've ever read, whether the autobiography of Malcolm X, or whatever, I've always read about Harlem, so I was determined to come here," says Creanna Moseley, a young black office worker from Tulsa, Okla. "It was at the top of my list. I might miss other places, but I really wanted to come here." She spent her one Sunday in New York touring gospel churches with the Harlem, Your Way! agency.

A frequent traveler, Miss Moseley had two goals in mind on her first trip to New York: a night at a Broadway play and a trip uptown to Harlem. Like most tourists, she was surprised to discover the wide boulevards along Seventh Avenue, the elegant homes of Strivers Row, and the many historic sites — standing reminders of Harlem's legacy of wealth.

As tour guides will quickly point out, Harlem contains 25 historic sites, more than any other area of the city. The Dutch founded Harlem in 1658 as the farming community of New Haarlem. In 1776, George Washington fought the battle of Harlem Heights against the British, using the still-standing Morris-Jumel Mansion as his headquarters.

The Christian Science Monitor.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1 Grinding tooth
- 6 Bears witness
- 13 Explosive sound
- 14 Sweet wine
- 16 Punish
- 17 Convents
- 18 Duke or Day
- 19 Plead
- 20 Tigers and Cubs
- 21 Angers
- 22 Tender spots
- 24 Daint
- 25 River island
- 26 Peter or Paul
- 28 Pioneer
- 29 Red soil
- 31 Hesitant sounds
- 33 Civil War issue
- 34 Reads over
- 38 Greek letter
- 39 Most harsh
- 40 Common market abbr.
- 43 Voted into office
- 45 School org.
- 46 Hoof sound
- 48 Porticos, to Plato
- 49 Poet Sandburg
- 50 Congress: Abbr.
- 52 Night flyer
- 53 Verbal evidence, with "by"
- 54 Neck protector made of mail
- 56 Editor's court
- 57 Freshville organ
- 58 Happy
- 59 Began
- 60 Woody

DOWN

- 1 Pyramid
- 2 "Patience," for one
- 3 Lament of Sri Lanka
- 4 Circle sections
- 5 Map abbr.
- 6 Basmirch
- 7 Objective
- 8 Person bird
- 9 Jacket or collar
- 10 Letter stroke
- 11 Threefold
- 12 React to rage
- 13 Certain fires
- 15 British chariot
- 19 Loat
- 22 Curis
- 23 Dolmans
- 26 Mountain ridge
- 27 Made a mistake
- 30 Pre-holiday time
- 32 Big —, Calif.
- 34 Flower feature
- 35 Take apart
- 36 Female hormone
- 37 Came to a halt
- 38 Took a dim view
- 40 Applause
- 41 Pupils, in Paris
- 42 To the point
- 44 Principal dancer at the Paris Opera
- 47 Columbus caravel
- 49 Panama
- 51 Headliner
- 53 Nuisance
- 55 Perform
- 56 Meadow

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:
 BAIL ADDS SUSAN
 ULAN TRUE ELENA
 MOST TIER NOTES
 PUTUPAERONTIAT
 SNORT ARMORY
 PATER MIAHY
 DER DESIST UFOS
 ORAL LOTTE DINE
 HOWE MORASS RTE
 ALLINE ARSON
 FARRAR EGRET
 AME BACKSLAPPER
 RAMEE ROSA EAVE
 ARIEL AGED AGES
 DIATES GENE LEINT

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
 SQUEEZED BY A FAIR LADY

East-West vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH

♠ K 8 6 2

♥ Q 8

♦ 7 3

♣ A K 10 8 4

WEST

♠ 10 9 7 4 3

♥ K 5 3

♦ 9 5 4

♣ 7 5

EAST

♠ A Q J

♥ J 10

♦ K Q 10 8

♣ Q J 6 2

SOUTH

♠ 5

♥ A 9 7 6 4 2

♦ A J 6 2

♣ 9 3

The bidding:

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Pass 2 ♠

Dbl Pass 2 ♠

Pass 4 ♠ Pass Pass

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spade bid, South felt that she had the values to go on to game. Insulted at the turn of events, East doubled and North upped the ante even further.

West's opening club lead was taken by the king, and declarer immediately led a diamond. East split her honors and she was allowed to hold the trick. She shifted to a trump. West scored her king and returned the suit to dummy's queen. The jack of diamonds was successfully finessed, and ace and another heart brought about this ending:

NORTH

♠ A 8 6

♥ 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2

♦ K 10 8

♣ A Q J

♠ A Q

♥ K 10

♦ Q J

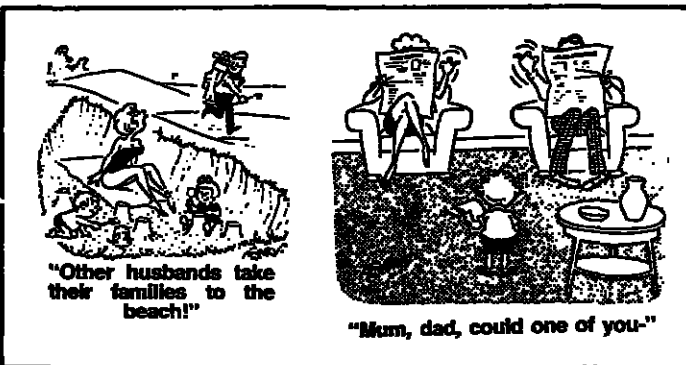
♣ 5

♥ 7 6

♦ A 6

♣ 9

Declarer led a trump, discarding a spade from dummy, and East was ruined. She could not let go a card in either minor without presenting declarer with her fulfilling trick in that suit, so she perforce stuffed the queen of spades. Declarer now ducked a spade, fetching the ace from East and establishing the king as her 10th trick.



"Other husbands take their families to the beach!"

"Mum, dad, could one of you?"

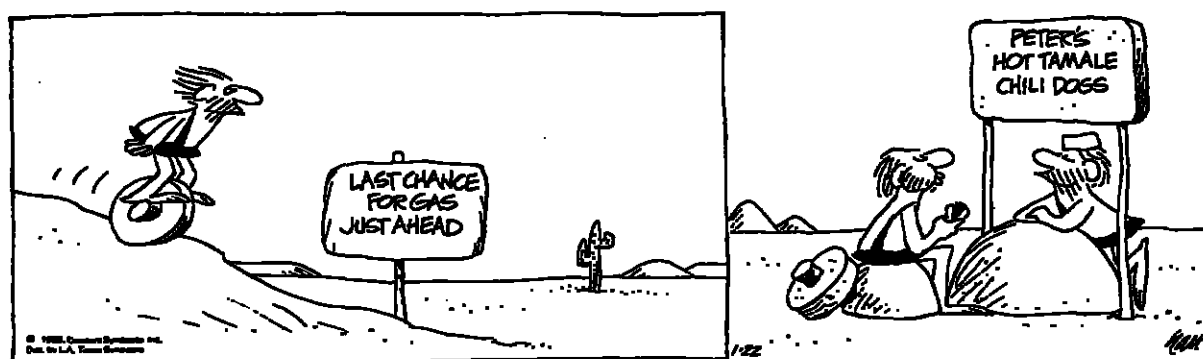
THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You will be in the right frame of mind to make good progress. A problem will be easier to solve than seemed at first. You should have a friendly talk rather than an argument. Be pliable.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

Your intuitive powers are liable to deceive you if you rely too heavily on them. You should not trust to luck nor should you gamble. Take good care of your personal hygiene. Be trustworthy.



SCREEN

'Empire of the Sun' star shines on debut

Oscar hopes for 13-year-old schoolboy

By Ivor Davis

HOLLYWOOD: Whatever the reaction to Steven Spielberg's "Empire of the Sun" — and it has been mixed — critics do agree on one thing: their admiration for the film's 13-year-old star Christian Bale.

It is difficult to think of another film of this scope that has rested on such young shoulders.

Ten-year-old Tatum O'Neal won an Oscar for "Paper Moon" in 1973, but that was for a supporting role. If Bale is nominated (a likely prospect) it will have to be as best actor.

Bale is no precocious Hollywood brat. The actor, who is in almost every scene of this

two-and-a-half hour saga, is remarkable in his ordinariness. He portrays 11-year-old Jim Graham, an upper-crust member of the British colony in Shanghai, China, who in the panic of the Japanese invasion on Dec 8, 1941, following the bombing of Pearl Harbour, is separated from his parents and spends three years as a prisoner in a Japanese internment camp. John Malkovich and English actors Nigel Havers and Miranda Richardson share screen credit, but the film belongs to Bale.

"I wouldn't say it is the most difficult job in the world," says Bale. "Lots of people have to work harder, a lot harder."

"This is my first movie," he

explains, "so I don't have anything to compare it with. I'll realise how big it is if I do another film. But I got through it easily and it was fun."

Spielberg and his crew are the first Americans to shoot a feature-length film in China. They re-created the harbour city of Shanghai in 1941, travelled to Spain where the prison-camp scenes were shot, then to England to capture on film the luxurious neighbourhood of the Grahams.

Searching

Spielberg spent nine months searching for a youngster to play the lead in the film based on the 1984 novel by J. G. Ballard. He auditioned more than 4,000 actors before find-

ing someone who could portray the wide range of emotions the part called for.

In the beginning of the film Bale's character is a spoiled brat. But after three years in the camp he becomes a street-smart, compassionate young man who knows more about life than his parents.

Bale auditioned several times for the part of Graham. He met with Spielberg in Hollywood, then, upon returning home to Bournemouth, England, he found a scene from the movie had been delivered along with instructions to meet the director in London. Dutifully learning the lines, he arrived to find Spielberg alone in a conference room. About to launch into the

scene, the director said, "OK, Christian, you've got the part."

"I was shocked," Bale says. "I said, 'Oh... great. Thanks.' Just like that. Mind you, I always go to an audition with the attitude if I get it, great; if I don't, I don't worry about it."

"He never pushed Christian," says Martin Gales, Bale's manager and drama coach. "The idea was not to put pressure on him. He wasn't aware of the responsibility he was carrying. Had he been, he wouldn't have done such a good job."

Spielberg soon found he could tell Bale what was required in a scene and the actor would take it from there.

"I would go in a corner and work myself up to it," Bale says of his acting technique. "I would think about something sad or something that makes me angry, like if somebody close to me got killed, but I would only need to do that the first time. After that it would just come. I don't know how I did it."

One scene called for a former servant to slap Graham in the face.

"We rehearsed it several times and she would fake the slap. But Steven told her when it came to the take to really slap me so my shock would look real. It did."

Experience

Bale's show-business experience consists of TV commercials at age 10, a London play, a British Broadcasting Corp. (BBC) miniseries and several other television appearances, including the role of Prince Alexis on the NBC-TV miniseries "Anastasia: The Mystery of Anna," which starred Amy Irving, Spielberg's wife.

"He has the ability to become the character he plays," says Gales of his star pupil. "He is



Inside a Japanese detention centre, Christian Bale gets his first lesson in survival — warding off starvation, in Steven Spielberg's film Empire of the Sun.

an intelligent boy and that has a great deal to do with it. But he also has that quality that says, as soon as he walks through the door, 'Here is someone.'

Bale says he did not care for the character of Graham.

"I don't think I would have been his friend," he says. "I think he is spoiled. But his older version is OK. He is a bit crazy by the end, but he has a better character after that."

In fact, Bale is concerned that he may become typecast.

"I once played an obnoxious kid on stage where all I did was scream and yell. I did a series for the BBC called 'Heart of the Country' in which I played a spoiled, wealthy kid. I don't

think I'm obnoxious, at least I hope not."

"I never imagined myself as a leading man. I don't know whether it will change my life. I don't want people to know me as a movie star. I want to keep my social and personal life separate from the film. I don't know if I can do it, but I hope so."

His father, a former pilot turned businessman, and mother, who dabbled in show business by performing as a dancer in a circus, are making sure the star treatment does not go to their son's head. When the picture was completed Bale returned to school.

Bale does not know what he

wants to do when he grows up. "I haven't made up my mind," he says. "Before this film I wasn't keen on acting. I would have given it up without much bother, but I think now I would like to carry on."

If come Oscar time Bale makes the list of nominees alongside the likes of Albert Finney, Nick Nolte, Mickey Rourke, Jack Nicholson or Michael Douglas, he will be the first youngster nominated as best actor since 10-year-old Jackie Cooper in 1930 (he did not win).

Now that could give an actor the kind of encouragement he would need, as Bale puts it, "to carry on."



Young Jim Graham (Christian Bale) crawls outside the prison camp in the epic drama Empire of the Sun. The film portrays the adult world of war as seen through the eyes of a young boy.

Rave reviews for Dickens' film

By Michael Rank

LONDON, (Reuters): A six-hour epic film of Charles Dickens' "Little Dorrit" has a star-studded cast including Sir Alec Guinness and Derek Jacobi, is winning rave reviews for its portrayal of the grinding poverty and colourful characters of Victorian London.

The film, in two parts, has been praised for its vivid evocation of Dickensian England and for the consummate skill with which director Christine Edzard handles an enormous cast that includes many of Britain's best-known actors.

Derek Malcolm, film critic of the Guardian newspaper, said the film "displays the virtuosity and depth of British acting talent... the essence of Dickens' majestic panorama of weakness, gullibility and hypocrisy is all present," in Guinness' and Jacobi's performances.

The Times cinema critic, David Robinson, praised the film's epic quality and the authenticity of the sets and costumes.

"Nor does it overlook the parallels to our own times, in this new industrial society bedeviled by greed, passion for investment, embezzling moguls and the insolence of bureaucracy. Edzard does justice to

Charles Robinson added. French-born Edzard said "Little Dorrit" was her favourite Dickens novel, even though it is not one of his most widely read, and that to film it had been a long-standing ambition.

"I wanted to film the whole book, which is why it had to be so long. I wouldn't have touched it otherwise, because I couldn't have done it justice," she added.

"Everyone said it was quite impossible," said Edzard, even though the film's £4.9 million (nine million dollars) budget is modest by Hollywood standards.

"We got it (the finance) almost by accident. We went ahead and started making it on our own," added the director, who is married to the film's co-producer, Richard Goodwin.

It is only the second feature film Edzard has made. Her first, "Biddy," about a Victorian nanny, did not attract large audiences.

The two parts of "Little Dorrit" daringly tell the same story through two pairs of eyes

once through those of the dreamy but well-meaning Arthur Clennam (Derek Jacobi) and once through those of Amy Dorrit (Sarah Pickering), a young girl born and brought up in Marshalsea, a

poor prison.

The story begins with Arthur Clennam's return to London and his grim, reclusive mother (the late Joan Greenwood) after 20 years in China. He takes pity on Amy, or Little Dorrit as she is called, who is working as a seamstress for his mother, and he tries, rather ineffectually, to help her.

Clennam's vague do-gooding backfires in a failed business venture and he lands in the Marshalsea from which William Dorrit, the heroine's father and a long-time inmate, has been released after unexpectedly inheriting a fortune.

With their positions reversed, it is left to Little Dorrit to try to help Clennam.

Oxford professor of English Literature, John Carey writes in the programme that "The mere lighting of a candle, which sheds a gaunt and sickly pallor in Arthur's half of the film, is a joyous outburst in Amy's."

In Little Dorrit's eyes the mansion of Mrs Clennam (Arthur's mother) is filled with sunlight, Carey wrote.

"It is, we realise, a stately and beautiful house, with its polished woods and ornate moulded ceiling. Yet Arthur has seen only darkness and decay."

London film-goers must buy separate tickets for each part,

but they can either see both part in one day, with a two-hour interval, or they can view each half on different days.

Guinness plays with shabby grandeur the part of the feckless William Dorrit. The character is based to a large extent on Dickens' own father who also served time in the Marshalsea.

"I've never enjoyed anything so much," Guinness, 73, said in a recent interview on the set of the film, which was shot entirely in a studio in Rotherhithe in East London.

"I love the atmosphere here... and the whole ramshackle oddity of it: the fact that it's on the Thames, down from Tower Bridge, with the river flowing, the tide coming in and out."

"That gives it all a curious life," said Guinness, an old hand at Dickens films who made his screen debut in David Lean's version of "Great Expectations" in 1947 and was a memorable Fagin in "Oliver Twist" the following year.

For Jacobi, the film crowns a series of smash hits on television and on the stage, including a British best actor of the year nomination for "Breaking The Code" which recently transferred to Broadway after a highly successful run in London's West End.

Stallone: caught in the image-trap

By Paul Weidel

BANGKOK, (UPI): As Rambo, Sylvester Stallone makes miraculous escapes against impossible odds, but as an actor he admits he has little chance of escaping his violent action-adventure image.

"I'd love to do something different," said Stallone, a towel draped over his trademark muscles during a break in the filming of "Rambo III."

"Sylvester Stallone is going to play Mark Twain, a writer, or he is going to play a monk," he mused. But, he acknowledged, "you just don't believe it, you know."

"The image is forever. As much as I'd like to be broadening the field, I have to be realistic. I'm caught in a certain persona. People see me in a certain way."

"When I die they'll put this headband in my grave," he said, fingering the headband he has worn in all the Rambo films.

"That's the way it is. It's a blessing. It's a curse, but it is something that is very rare. I can't fight it."

Stallone rose to film fame as

Rocky Balboa, the down-and-out heavyweight boxer who gets a shot at the championship. He was gone on to more tough-guy roles, playing a union organizer, a cop and an arm-wrestling truck driver.

"If all of a sudden you say here is Sylvester Stallone in a fun comedy, you'd say 'wait a minute,'" he said, recalling the comedy "Rhinestone," with Dolly Parton, that was a miserable flop.

As John Rambo, the violent Vietnam war veteran, however, he has been a huge box office success. Stallone's first Rambo movie grossed \$120 million and the second \$270 million, making it one of the highest grossing films in history.

Although Stallone never served in the military and has drawn criticism from Vietnam veterans, he said he genuinely likes playing the taciturn soldier who seems more at home with weapons than with people.

"He's a very difficult character because he doesn't speak much, so he has to act a lot, move," Stallone said.

"I like the philosophy that he is a man who should have lived



Stallone as Rambo, the violent Vietnam war veteran has been a huge box office success.

500 years ago. He needs a reason to exist. I like that his life is one of dedication and obedience. He learns that in this movie."

"Rambo" was the creation of novelist David Morrell, but Stallone wrote the story and screenplay for "Rambo III," which brings the hero back to Southeast Asia, not to fight but to find peace in a Buddhist temple.

"He thinks he can become and live like a Buddhist with the monks (in Thailand)," he said.

But his former superior officers, Col. Trautman, played by Richard Crenna, is captured by Soviet troops in Afghanistan and Rambo is lured back into action.

"There is a part of him that's peaceful. There is a part of him that needs to be involved in a cause for freedom," Stallone said.

The \$31 million movie is almost complete, with a few scenes left to shoot in Arizona.

Both Stallone and director Peter MacDonald said they have made efforts to make give Rambo III a more realistic look than its predecessors.

MacDonald said he was considering using actual docu-

mentary footage shot in Afghanistan and wanted to send a crew — without Stallone — into the refugee camps along the Afghan-Pakistan border.

Stallone spent three months researching the conflict in Afghanistan and hired a former Afghan guerrilla fighter as a consultant.

"This movie has a lot of sweat and blood in it and a lot of truth," Stallone said.

The movie is scheduled for release in May, and Stallone already is talking about future projects, including "Rocky V."

He has an arrangement with United Artists to deliver 10 pictures produced by his White Eagle production company over the next six years. Stallone is to have a hand in all of them as either director, producer, screenwriter or actor.

One of the ground rules for talking to Stallone was "no personal questions." But he touched on the highly publicised and bitter breakup with his wife Brigitte Nielsen, when asked about his superstar status.

"Of course it's a wonderful feeling (to be a superstar)," he said. "It's the feeling that you have been accepted and what you're doing the people like."

FAMILY DOCTOR
By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIMFEMALE FOOTBALL PLAYER
AT A DISADVANTAGE

QUESTION: I'm a girl who wants to play high school football. Everyone says I shouldn't. Are they right?

ANSWER: The female football player is a novelty, so it's no surprise that coaches, parents and teammates feel nervous about letting her join the team. The average woman is less muscular than the average man; weighs less; is generally not as strong and not as fast. When two bodies collide, the lighter, less-dense body absorbs the force of the momentum, posing a greater risk of injury, a factor any responsible supervisor must be concerned about. Furthermore, success in football depends upon strength and speed; again, the average woman is at a disadvantage.

The real question is whether you as an individual belong on the team. How do you compare in size to team members? How about speed? Strength? Football attracts the largest, strongest, fastest boys in the school, so you'll need to be one of the largest, fastest, strongest girls if you expect to compete with a reasonably low risk of injury. You'll certainly have to be a better athlete than a significant percentage of boys in the school.

It may sound chauvinistic, but these are the laws of motion and mass of physics that we are applying.

The fact of being female brings other considerations. Your head and neck may be smaller than those of male players, a disadvantage in head-to-head contact, and because your pelvis may be wider, the angle at which your upper leg hooks up with your knee will be greater. One study has shown that women playing the same sports as men have more knee injuries. You will need some careful evaluation and advice to help you in your decision to participate.

QUESTION: I've suffered with migraine headaches for years now. Nothing really seems to help. I've recently heard that in Great Britain, many people have been using a herb called feverfew to help get rid of migraines. Do you know anything about it? Do you recommend it?

ANSWER: Feverfew is a medicinal herb that many now are claiming can prevent migraine headaches. People who say they have eaten feverfew leaves daily for several months say they have less frequent bouts with migraine attacks and that the attacks

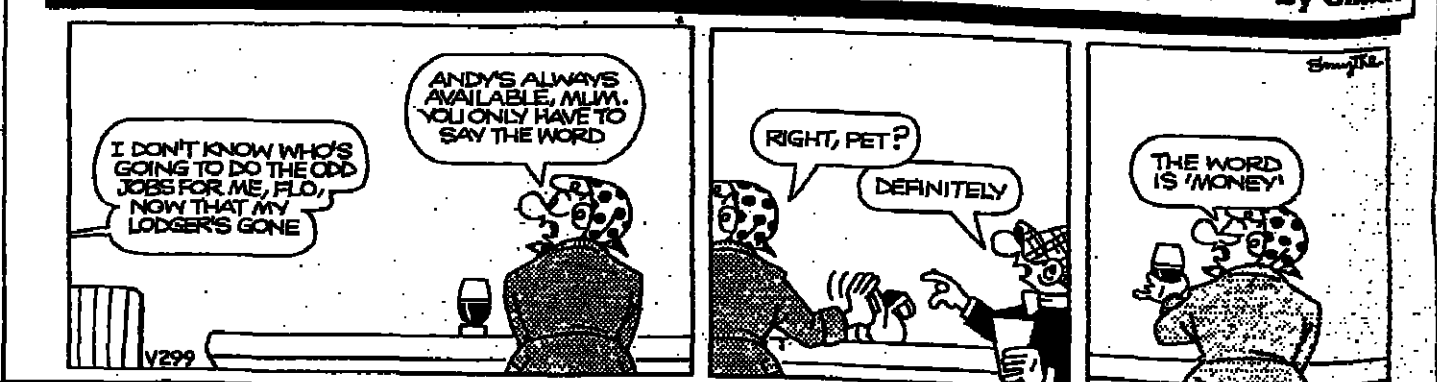
they do have are not as severe. The migraine patients usually eat from one to four fresh feverfew leaves every day.

Some of the patients who had used feverfew (without a doctor's supervision) were asked to take part in a research project at the London Migraine Clinic, and the results were interesting, but inconclusive. Some patients were given dried feverfew powder in capsules, others were given a placebo. Those given a placebo after having taken the herb for months seem to have experienced a significant increase in the number and intensity of migraines. They reported nausea, vomiting and other effects. The patients given the feverfew powder reported the same benefits as with the fresh leaves. Doctors are not sure whether the patients given the placebo simply were experiencing the withdrawal effects of feverfew, or if the herb really works in combating migraines. More scientific studies must be done to determine whether feverfew is safe, or whether it can be toxic, as many herbs are. Until the evidence is in, I recommend staying away from this home remedy.

1988 TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES, INC.

ANDY CAPP

By Smith



BUSINESS & FINANCE

Japanese leaders agree to lift import curbs on farm items

TOKYO, Feb. 2, (AP): Agricultural policy-makers in Japan's government and ruling party agreed today to lift import restrictions on eight farm products to bring Japan into compliance with international regulations, a party official said.

The decision follows a recent ruling by the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade that Japan's import restrictions on 10 farm products violated international trade rules. The international trade organisation was ruling on a complaint by the United States.

The government plans to present its decision on lifting the curbs on eight products to GATT in a meeting in Geneva on Tuesday, said an official of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Decision

He said the decision was made by Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Takashi Sato, members of the LDP's agricultural policy panel and other officials.

The GATT ruling covered powdered and evaporated milk, processed cheese, prepared beef and pork, fruit juices, fruit purees, pineapples, tomato ketchup, glucose and caramel, starches and ice cream powder.

Kyodo News Service said officials at today's meeting decided that Japan would be prepared to pay penalties for maintaining controls on the import of starch and powdered and condensed milk to protect domestic producers. The group also agreed to wait a suitable period before lifting the trade restrictions.

Sato said his ministry planned to set up a special team to determine what policies the government should implement to assist farmers affected by the lifting of import restrictions, Kyodo added.

Request

Meanwhile, the Foreign Ministry called on Japan's influential business organisation last week to act cautiously in trading with South Africa in face of an expanding trade volume between the two countries, a ministry official said.

Takashi Onoda, head of the ministry's Middle and Near East and African Bureau, passed on the request to Nihachiro Hamamura, vice-chairman of the Federation of Economic Organisations (Keidanren) at the instructions of Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno, the official said.

External auditors to visit Opec countries

VIENNA, Feb. 2, (Opecna): The Dutch firm of external auditors appointed by Opec as part of the organisation's production control mechanism is to visit member countries this month, Opec conference president Alhaji Rilwan Lukman told Opecna yesterday.

The firm, Klynveld Kraayenhof, was first engaged by the organisation for the same purpose in 1985 and 1986.

At the 82nd meeting of the Opec conference last December it was decided to re-institute the control system using the Dutch firm.

Visit

The Opec president had announced after the December meeting that representatives of the firm would visit the Opec countries "simultaneously".

Lukman said last night that the firm would be looking into the production figures of the respective Opec countries for January.

The Opec president left Vienna yesterday for Switzerland where he would be addressing this year's 'world economic forum' which opened late last week.

He told Opecna he intended to stress the need for all 'to team up' for a common interest.

Iran's steel output up

NICOSIA, Feb. 2, (Reuters): Iran produced more than a million tonnes of steel in the nine-month period to last December 21, 14 per cent more than in the corresponding period in 1986, Tehran radio reported today.

The radio, monitored in Cyprus, quoted Mines and Metals Minister Mohammad Reza Ayatollahi as saying Iran exported mineral worth \$59.4 million in the same period.

Ayatollahi said domestic coal production in the nine-month period increased by four per cent to over 46,000 tonnes.

Move to control inflationary pressures

UK banks raise interest rates

LONDON, Feb. 2, (UPI): Britain's 'big four' banks pushed up base rates to 9 per cent from 8.5 per cent yesterday following a go-ahead from the Bank of England in an attempt to control inflationary pressures.

The bank earlier had lifted its market dealing rate to 9 per cent from 8.5 per cent. Within a few hours, Lloyds, Barclays, National Westminster and Midland followed suit.

"The decision to raise the cost of borrowing was taken in the light of continuing strong growth in credit and consumer demand, and followed on from last week's warning on inflationary pressures from the Governor of the Bank of England, Robin Leigh-Pemberton," a Bank of England spokesman said.

"A Rise In Managers, which

holds 26.4 million BP shares, slammed the Britoil offer as far too expensive for BP shareholders.

"The £2.5 billion (\$4.5 billion) of its shareholders' money BP is prepared to spend to acquire oil properties that the stock market valued at only £900 million (\$1.62 billion) on the day before the battle was joined is, in my opinion, far too expensive for the company's shareholders," Knox said.

Costly

"For it is they who have to suffer the indignation, dilution and under-performance that so often follows a costly skirmish of this type," Knox said.

He said the question the Britoil bid should raise is, who protects the shareholders for the bidding company?

"BP have been better buying back its own shares rather than diluting its assets and earnings per share so very significantly," Knox said.

The Scottish amicable investment manager argued that some of the recent high-profile bid conflicts illustrated the 'significant losses' made by the aggressors' shareholders as the share price subsequently came down.

Success

"Too often the success of corporate bids becomes a question of corporate virility, exposing a glaring weakness in our system. Surely it is time to prevent acquisitions going ahead without the essential sanction of the poor bidder shareholders," said Knox.

The government must retain

its special share in Britoil long enough to ensure adherence to any pact reached between itself and BP. Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson told the House of Commons yesterday.

He said the government would meet with BP and Britoil.

"However, I don't think it is right now to give up the special share. I think it is necessary to maintain the special share in order to ensure a satisfactory outcome and to ensure that whatever is agreed is adhered to," Lawson said.

With the promised sell-off of nearly 30 per cent of Britoil shares last week by Los Angeles based Atlantic Richfield, BP would then have 54 per cent in Britain's biggest independent oil company.

John Banham, director-general of the Confederation of British Industry, said the increase would add £125 million (\$219 million) a year to business costs.

Share prices quickly went into reverse as an earlier 16-point rise in the FTSE index — which measures the top 100 shares — turned into a 13.9-point drop at close.

Fears

Base rates were lowered to 8-1/2 per cent in early December amid widespread fears among the international financial community that last October's stocks slump would follow through into recession.

But economists said the bid to pump more money into nervous markets that have now steadied was bad for Britain's surging economy.

Eastern Europe's debt bill mounts

LONDON, Feb. 2, (Reuters): East European communist countries struggling to pay off heavy debts to the West are looking for ways out of their economic difficulties as the bill gets higher and higher.

For most of these countries, the money they borrowed to help carve out a larger share of world markets did not really help them boost their economies.

That may be why, economists say, some communist states are trying a new track — economic reforms on the pattern of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's "Perestroika" campaign of restructuring which even includes the introduction of some free markets.

"The basic problem was and is an inability to generate increased productivity," said David Dyker, a specialist in communist economics at England's Sussex University.

Throughout Eastern Europe, Reuters correspondents report that governments are grappling with the problem of how to produce — and sell — enough of what the rest of the world wants, to pay off their debts and to import the goods they need.

Communist states that led communist states to start borrowing in the 1970s. Many felt they could not generate the invest-

ment funds they needed at home.

Now, it is hard to generate the hard currency needed to keep up payments on their debt.

"Poland is an example," said Dyker. "They've made all kinds of proposals aimed at solving their debt crisis. But it is very difficult for Poland to do anything without some additional investment."

Credits

Poland is seeking credits from the International Monetary Fund (IMF). It also aims to postpone payments due on some of the money it owes to members of the Paris Club of Western creditor governments. Last year, Poland's foreign debt rose by over \$4 billion to \$37.6 billion.

Yugoslavia, with a total hard currency debt of \$21.8 billion at the end of 1987, also wants IMF credits, but in exchange may have to let the IMF supervise the economy, and possibly allow it to impose policies and reforms.

For many Third World debtors, that has meant austerity and cutbacks in the way their governments intervene in the economy — bitter medicine in a socialist state.

Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu has opted for a different route — a crash

programme which slashed gross debt from \$10.5 billion at the end of 1981 to 6.4 billion in 1986.

Diplomats say Romania could cut its gross debt of \$4.5 billion in 1988, about what the country itself owed, mainly from export credits granted to Third World countries.

To make its payments, Romania made an all-out export drive and cut imports. But Romanian food shipments abroad mean food shortages at home, while cuts in energy imports left Romanians with drastically reduced capacity to heat and light their homes.

Hungary, the East bloc's trail-blazer of economic reform, also borrowed heavily to modernise its industry.

But competition on world markets has been tough. Among its main exports, income from oil products has been hit by the world fall in energy prices.

The National Bank said net hard currency debt rose to \$10.1 billion as of October, 1987 after jumping 54 per cent in 1986 to \$7.8 billion.

Lower oil prices worry some economists in the Soviet Union.

"The Soviets have a problem. They raise money by selling raw materials, but the prices of those materials are falling. At the same

time right now they want to import more technology," said a Western diplomat in Moscow.

The Bank of International Settlements says the Soviet Union's debt is \$37.5 billion.

Western diplomats say that is a \$6 to \$8 billion increase from 1986 and they expect the figure to keep rising.

Viktor Geraschenko, vice-president of the Soviet Union's Bank for Foreign Economic Affairs, says more bonds will follow January's 190 million Swiss franc (\$73 million) bond sale.

East Germany's debt rose to \$16.8 billion at June 1987 from \$15.7 billion at the end of 1986, and economic sources say it may be a big borrower this year, for about two billion marks (\$1.2 billion), its first big borrowing since raising \$1.1 billion in 1985.

Czechoslovakia is Eastern Europe's most cautious borrower, but the price of caution was economic stagnation and outdated, inefficient industries, said Zdenek Lukas, an economist at the Vienna Institute for Comparative Economic Studies.

Even so, Czechoslovakia's debt rose to about \$4.7 billion at the end of 1987 from 4.1 billion in 1986 and 3.5 billion in 1985, he said.

Gulf airlines get more access to Saudi Arabia

BAHRAIN, Feb. 2, (Reuters): Gulf airlines will boost flights to Saudi Arabia under a deal to share revenue with the state-owned carrier Saudia, the head of Gulf Air said today.

Gulf Air President Ali Ibrahim Al Malki told a news conference Saudi had signed revenue-sharing agreements with Gulf Air and Kuwait Airways.

"Big concessions were made by all three parties," he said of negotiations that began a year ago.

Under the deal Gulf Air would increase passenger seats from Bahrain to the Saudi capital Riyadh and Red Sea port of Jeddah from about 500 to 1,250 in the summer schedule starting in April, Malki said.

Seats

Saudia currently had some 1,680 seats to Bahrain from Riyadh and Jeddah.

Malki added that Saudia had also agreed to extra Gulf Air flights to Riyadh and Jeddah from Oman, Qatar and Abu Dhabi in the UAE.

Gulf Air is owned by the governments of Bahrain, Qatar, Oman and the UAE.

Malki did not give details of additional flights to Saudi Arabia by Kuwait Airways.

India mulls privatisation of its huge state sector

NEW DELHI, Feb. 2, (Reuters): India wants to join the growing ranks of nations selling off chunks of state-owned industries, but critics believe there will be few takers of stakes in the massive, inefficient national enterprises.

The public sector supplies all of India's energy, three quarters of its steel, half its fertiliser, and accounts for more than a quarter of the gross domestic product.

Economists say the 214 state enterprises are bedevilled by too much state control, bureaucracy, project delays, outdated technology and machinery, labour problems and lack of incentives. This is hindering overall economic growth.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, who inherited the headaches of the industries started by his grandfather Jawaharlal Nehru, sharply criticised the public sector in December.

"Can we afford a socialism where the public sector, instead of generating wealth, is robbing and sucking up the wealth of the poor?" He asked during a political rally.

In an apparent about-turn, he

told a key public sector chiefs' meeting in late January week the total investment in the public sector would double to \$66 billion by the end of the seventh five-year economic plan in 1990 from levels in 1985.

"Investment of these magnitudes reflects the scale of my commitment and the government's commitment to building a strong public sector," he said, calling the public sector the major weapon in the fight against poverty which grips half India's 800 million people.

Performance

Political analysts say that while Gandhi is critical of the state enterprises' performance, he has to continue showing public support at their expansion to avoid being accused of reneging on socialist principles he inherited from his mother.

Government officials said at the meeting that successful state enterprises should be allowed to sell 25 per cent of their shares to employees and the public at market value.

They did not name any state enterprises or give a timescale for the privatisation plan.

But Y.P. Srivastava, economist at the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, said the enterprises likely to be privatised first were the telecommunications and airlines industries, with Air India and Indian Airlines heading the list.

He said in a telephone interview that the government may take up to three years to implement the privatisation process, and even then, as little as five to 10 per cent of shares would be sold initially.

"It is a sensitive issue. The government wants to be in control still but it believes that some private representation in the public sector can improve performance," he said.

Some economists say India's public sector, which employs more than two million workers, is a key political tool for Rajiv because it provides a reliable vote bank for his ruling Congress (I) Party.

The World Bank in a recent report on India's steel industry said the political climate was "not yet ripe" for privatisation of the country's state-owned steel plants.

Experts to discuss new strategy for conservation

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica, Feb. 2, (Reuters): Conservationists from over 100 countries meet in Costa Rica this week to seek new strategies to preserve the world's natural environment.

The Duke of Edinburgh, president of the World Wildlife Fund, and Costa Rican President Oscar Arias are among the scheduled speakers at the biggest event on the world's conservation calendar.

About 1,200 delegates from governmental and private institutions will attend the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), which is holding its 17th general assembly here from February 1-10.

They say the battle is being lost in many regions.

Need

"The need for action to conserve our planet has never been greater," said British biologist Martin Holdgate, who will become the IUCN's director-general in April.

Topics at the triennial meeting range from the drying up of the Panama Canal and depletion of the ozone in the Antarctic to the near extinction of the African black rhinoceros.

Pressure groups hope to influence policy over the next

three years on such drastic problems as the drought-stricken Sahel and the world's devastated rain forests.

A list of the 12 most endangered animal species will be announced during the conference. The yearly listing has in the past spurred governments to step up conservation efforts.

Strategy

Experts will discuss a new world conservation strategy, a blueprint for safeguarding the earth's life support systems drawn up in 1980.

That strategy need updating to take into account the population boom and new concepts of conservation economics, experts say.

IUCN officials say the current thinking is to bring conservation efforts more into line with economic benefits.

Delegates will look at such innovative techniques as foreign debt-swaps for conservation in Third World countries.

Under this arrangement, foreign bank creditors agree to sell their debt at a discount to conservation groups which receive an equivalent amount in local currency from Third World governments if they invest in conservation projects.

Future Arab development to be reviewed

THE tenth conference of the Arab Economists Union will be held on Feb. 6, a director of the Kuwait Economists Society, Abdul Rahman Al Humoud, has said.

He said the conference will be patronised by HH the Amir. The theme will be "contemporary economic problems and future Arab development."

He said that international economic problems and their effects on Arab economy would be discussed in ten major research papers prepared by Arab economists at the request of the conference's preparatory committee.

Several Arab institutions and establishments had made significant contribution to organising of the conference. These included the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, Inter-Arab Investment Guarantee Corporation and Kuwait Airways Corporation.

World Business Summary

Call for new approach in US foreign aid

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2, (AP): A new approach is needed for US foreign aid to cope with shrinking finances, says the chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee for the US House of Representatives.

The Congressman, Dante Fascell, an opposition democrat, said yesterday that he will appoint a task force to look into the situation. Fascell also said he welcomed moves by Japan and European countries to assume a greater share of responsibility for providing aid to other parts of the world. Fascell made his comments at a gathering of international, private organisations promoting the interests of women in poor countries. "We are not only going to have to reshape, we're going to have to rethink our priorities," he said.

Fascell's call for a task force came after US Secretary of State George Shultz wrote him last week asking for a joint review by the US State Department and members of Congress of US foreign aid.

Cuts in the level of aid have eliminated US security assistance for about 30 countries and undermined US objectives, vital interests and credibility, according to Shultz.

Since World War II, the United States has "spent a lot, committed a lot to be of more assistance to more people in the world than perhaps any society," and today "the US cannot falter," Fascell said. "The whole concept of military assistance" and the conflict between aid for security and for development would be among matters studied by the task force, Fascell said.

UAE likely to issue bonds to finance deficit budget

ABU DHABI, Feb. 2, (Kuna): UAE Central Bank Governor Abdul Malik Al Hamar said the government may resort to issuing bonds to finance the deficit in the federal budget. Al Hamar quoted by the Dubai-based English language daily Khaleej Times, said despite rationalisation efforts by this oil and gas exporting country, federal spending continues to exceed the country's revenues. The government "will have no option but to resort to bonds to finance the deficit," the paper quoted Al Hamar as saying in an interview. It said the interview had appeared in the February 1988 issue of a Dubai-based magazine "Emirates Today".

Al Hamar, the paper said, believed the time was "ideal" for the issue of such instruments because of the availability of surplus funds in the country and the absence of good investment opportunities around the world.

In the interview, Al Hamar said the Central Bank was monitoring the fluctuations in foreign currencies and would not hesitate to intervene if necessary to support the dirham. He ruled out such a step at present, saying the average dirham exchange rate against the IMF's Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) had been within the "permissible margin" due to the dirham's link with the currencies that make up the SDR. Al Hamar also said the depreciation of the US dollar since December had not affected consumer prices in the UAE local market at the same level as the rate of devaluation. The annual inflation rate since 1985 did not exceed four per cent, he said. The Central Bank governor expected the world stock market situation to continue to worsen saying, "I believe further unpleasant surprises are predicted," following the October crash.

He said certificates of deposits issued by the Central Bank to mop up surplus liquidity in the UAE had been bought by commercial banks to the value of Dhs 6.37 million and would continue to be provided by the bank.

Plan to execute more joint venture projects

THE director general of the Kuwait Real Estate Investment Consortium (Kreic) Mishari Zaid Al Khaled said yesterday that his consortium's projects have realised reasonable results last year. Al Khaled told Kuna in an exclusive interview that the consortium last year studied numerous ventures through its offices in Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco, New York and Malaysia in addition to its head office in Kuwait. Projects tabled by several other investment bodies were also reviewed, he noted, adding that it will soon start practical steps to execute a number of these ventures. The director general noted that Kreic had started since 1975 investing in Arab and foreign countries and primarily focussed activity on tourism enterprises such as hotels and resorts especially in Tunisia and Morocco. However, industrial and commercial projects followed in Egypt in addition to Malaysia, US, France and West Germany. The consortium's investments include shares in 20 affiliate and similar companies as well as direct investments represented in joint ventures, hotels, industrial projects and lands in addition to financial portfolios, Al Khaled said. Noting that majority of the Kreic's investments are concentrated in Kuwait, he said that 65 per cent of these investments, especially in real estate, are invested in Kuwait while 25 per cent are directed to foreign countries and the remaining 10 per cent in the Arab world.

Al Khaled said that the consortium's activities are mainly medium to long range investment that require some time before yielding profits. Taking this into consideration along with the fact that economic ventures outside Kuwait are affected by changing economic circumstances in the host country such as currency fluctuations, inflation, unemployment and taxes, the director said that "we have secured reasonable results last year."

He said that "we pursue a conservative investment policy particularly in the wake of the inconsistent international economic conditions that prevailed in 1987."

London faces more job losses

LONDON, Feb. 2, (Reuters): Thousands more jobs may be axed in London's Finance Centre following the October stock market crash, a stock exchange official said today. Rhamon Chapman, head of personnel at the exchange, told Personnel Magazine that as many as 10,000 of the 90,000 people who work in the securities industry could lose their jobs this year. "Many redundancies will arise because competition for business is now becoming extremely fierce, and profits margins are shrinking," she said. Those who remain can expect greater pressures "with increased emphasis on fast reaction time, performance and productivity," she said. Chapman said this was a "worst case" scenario for employment prospects. She added that people losing jobs would probably be clerks and junior executives rather than dealers. She said 10,000 jobs had been created in London's Finance Centre over the past five years. Many of the jobs that will be lost represent excess capacity caused by mergers during the 1986 "Big Bang" deregulation of the exchange. According to some industry estimates, financial firms have axed about 1,500 jobs in London since October.

Spain, Argentina sign trade pact

MADRID, Feb. 2, (Reuters): Spain and Argentina signed the outline of a far-reaching pact yesterday to help revive Argentina's debt-ridden economy and drop up its fragile democracy. Argentine President Raul Alfonsin and Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez said the treaty of cooperation and friendship, to be completed within three months, was an act of faith in the Latin American country. The treaty will involve about \$3 billion being injected into the Argentine economy over the next five years in Spanish credits, private Spanish investment, joint ventures and Argentine investment, the outline said. Gonzalez indicated the treaty would be suspended if democracy was overthrown in Argentina. "The treaty is based on symmetry in institutions, and it could hardly be maintained with asymmetry," he said. Alfonsin's three-day visit was originally scheduled for last month, but was delayed because of a short-lived military rebellion in Argentina.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

LONDON (Alpha Stocks)			LONDON (Beta Stocks)		
NAME	LAST	054/0	NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
ABBEY LIFE	254 1/2	205/0	A.B. ELECT	355/0	361/0
ALD LYONS	340/0	338/0	APV PLC	125/0	124/0
AMSTRAD	138 1/2	137/0	ARABIAN	128/0	123/0
ARGYLE GP	194/0	193/0	AAH HDLG	303/0	303/0
ASDA MFI	171/0	170/0	ADDITION G	95/0	95/0
A B FOODS	308/0	307/0	ADMET G	287/0	286/0
BAA PP	110/0	109/0	ALLSA	143/0	143/0
BTR	258/0	257/0	ALEX MRM	175/0	174/0
BAT IMOS	437/0	436/0	ALLIANCE	789/0	787/0
BARCLAYS	486/0	485/0	ALLO COLL	129/0	128/0
BASS	797/0	796/0	ALLO PLAN	54/0	54/0
BEAZER	188/0	187/0	AMARI PLC	154/0	153/0
BEECHAMS	463/0	462/0	ANEC PLC	350/0	351/0
BET ORD	238/0	237/0	AMER TRUS	116/0	115/0
BICC PLC	342/0	341/0	AMERSHAM	470/0	469/0
BLUE ARMY	95/0	94/0	ANGIA TV	407/0	408/0
BLUE CIRC	432/0	431/0	ANSBACHER	68/0	68/0
BUC GP	395/0	394/0	U-APP HOL	332/0	333/0
BOOTS CO	245/0	244/0	APPLEYARD	345/0	348/0
BPB IMOS	276/0	275/0	APRICOT	109/0	108/0
BR CORP	317/0	316/0	ARSTRONG	143/0	143/0
BR AIRWAY	170/0	169/0	ANGLO DIS	401/0	403/0
BR AEROSP	367/0	366/0	AQUAS A	84/0	83/0
BR GAS PP	137/0	136/0	ASHLEY L	122/0	121/0
B.P. NEW	77/0	76/0	AUTO SEC	246/0	245/0
BR TELCOM	238/0	237/0	AVIS EUR	291/0	292/0
BRITTOIL	480/0	479/0	AVON RUBB	622/0	620/0
BUNZL	163/0	162/0	BBA GP	139/0	139/0
BURMAN OL	480/0	479/0	BSG INTL	61/0	61/0
BURTON	242/0	241/0	BAILL JAP	424/0	423/0
CABLESWIR	350/0	349/0	ROTHMAN B	415/0	414/0
CADBURYS	254/0	253/0	ROKMTRE	447/0	446/0
COATS VNY	253/0	252/0	ROYAL IWS	410/0	409/0
COMI UNI	335/0	334/0	SAATCHI	438/0	437/0
CONS GOLD	800/0	799/0	SAINSBURY	230/0	229/0
COOKSONS	550/0	549/0	SCOT+NEW	216/0	215/0
COURTAULD	327/0	326/0	SEARS	125/0	124/0
DALGETY	322/0	321/0	SEDEWICK	217/0	216/0
DEE CP	194/0	193/0	SHELL	052/0	051/0
DIXONS	195/0	194/0	SMITH+NEP	140/0	139/0
ENG CHINA	385/0	384/0	STO. CHART	530/0	529/0
ENTER DIL	302/0	301/0	STC	236/0	235/0
FERRANTI	78/0	77/0	STORENHE	259/0	258/0
FISONS	262/0	261/0	SUN ALLIA	868/0	867/0
GEN ACCIO	832/0	831/0	TARMAC	233/0	232/0
GEN ELEC	156/0	155/0	TATELYE	302/0	301/0
GEN SEC	028/0	027/0	TESCO	158/0	157/0
GRAMADA	328/0	327/0	THORN ENI	565/0	564/0
GLOBE	139/0	138/0	TRAF RSE	328/0	327/0
GRAND MET	456/0	455/0	TSE	114/0	113/0
GUS A	105/0	104/0	T+N	180/0	179/0
GUARD RYL	870/0	869/0	TRUSTHSE	225/0	224/0
GKN	312/0	311/0	ULTRAMAR	236/0	235/0
GUINNESS	283/0	282/0	UNILEVER	494/0	493/0
HAWESON	525/0	524/0	UNIGATE	271/0	270/0
HANSON	130/0	129/0	UTO RISC	271/0	270/0
HAKER SID	479/0	478/0	UTD NUSP	440/0	439/0
HAMLEY	102/0	101/0	WELLCOME	403/0	402/0
HILLSDOWN	297/0	296/0	WHBRD IN	288/0	287/0
			WILLIS FB	226/0	225/0
			WOOLWORTH	273/0	272/0

World Indices				
INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-QR	PREV-YR
FT 300	1420.1	1423.1	1435.7	1373.3
FT 500 SHR	0	1001.4	1004.7	957.6
FT ALL SHR	0	10.31	15.84	870.22
FT GOV SEC	0	89.71	89.75	88.49
FT GOLD IN	0	252.8	261.5	302.1
FT MINES F	0	419.49	419.02	450.65
FT OIL	0	1782.9	1784.2	1663.6
FT MLD DLR	117.95	117.93	117.50	115.04
FT MLD STG	98.78	98.78	97.70	90.79
FT MLD LOC	104.82	104.82	104.40	99.08

London Stock Market Report

U.K. STOCKS MIXED TO EASIER IN LATE BUSINESS. LONDON, FEB 2 - SHARES WERE MIXED TO EASIER IN LATE BUSINESS, SHOWING ONLY A SHORT-LIVED RALLY IN RESPONSE TO NEWS A NUMBER OF U.S. BANKS CUT THEIR PRIME RATES BY 1/4 POINT TO 8-1/2 PCT.

DEALERS SAID HOPES FOR A WALL STREET RALLY THIS WEEK HAVE BEEN BASED ON SPECULATION ABOUT LOWER U.S. INTEREST RATES. BUT THE NEW YORK MARKET FELL TO ITS LOWS THIS AFTERNOON DESPITE THE PRIME RATE CUTS. THE FTSE 100 AT 1538 GNT WAS DOWN 1.3 TO 1,775.6 AFTER A HIGH OF 1,784.5 AT 1032 GMT.

U.S. DECEMBER LEADING INDICATORS FELL 0.2 PCT COMPARED WITH THE NOVEMBER FALL OF 1.2 PCT, DAMPENING DOWN THE DOLLAR AND OUTWEIGHING THE PRIME RATE CUTS, DEALERS HERE SAID.

DEALERS SAID LAST MINUTE WORRIES ABOUT THE PROSPECTS FOR TODAY'S 9.25 BILLION DLR AUCTION OF U.S. TREASURY THREE-YEAR NOTES ARE WEIGHING ON WALL STREET TODAY.

IT HAD BEEN HOPE THAT THE AUCTION WOULD ATTRACT STRONG DEMAND, BECAUSE PROSPECTS FOR A SLANTING IN THE U.S. ECONOMY AND THE RECENTLY STABLE DOLLAR HELPED THE U.S. BOND MARKET CLIMB SHARPLY IN THE "FLIGHT TO QUALITY" OF THE PAST FEW SESSIONS.

U.K. EQUITIES WERE DULL FIRST THING THIS MORNING, REMAINING DEPRESSIONED BY THE ROUND OF 1/2 POINT BASE RATE INCREASES TO NINE PCT YESTERDAY. LEAK OVERNIGHT PERFORMANCES ON WALL STREET AND IN THE FAR EAST ALSO CONTRIBUTED TO THE EARLY GLOOM.

London Gold

LONDON, FEB 2 - GOLD BULLION REMAINED IN A NARROW RANGE JUST ABOVE ITS AFTERNOON FIXING AND CLOSED IN MID-RANGE, AIDED BY GOOD PROFESSIONAL INTEREST AROUND THE LOWS, DEALERS SAID.

IT CLOSED AT 456.00/456.50 DLR AN OUNCE, AFTER RECEIVING GOOD SUPPORT WHEN IT DIPPED TO THE DAY'S LOWS OF 454.25/454.75 DLR. THIS COMPARED WITH OPENING AND PREVIOUS CLOSING LEVELS OF 455.20/455.70 AND 453.00/453.50 DLR RESPECTIVELY.

DEALERS SAID SWISS TRADE BUYING HAD BEEN NOTED DURING THE DAY BUT GOLD HAD ENCOUNTERED RESISTANCE IN THE REGION OF 458 DLR.

London Money Market

LONDON, FEB 2 - MONEY RATES WERE PUSHED LOWER IN LATE AFTERNOON TRADING, AFTER OPENING WITH AN EASIER TONE, IN RESPONSE TO NEWS THAT SOME MAJOR U.S. BANKS HAD CUT THEIR PRIME RATES BY 1/4 POINT TO 8-1/2 PCT, DEALERS SAID.

THE FALL IN U.K. RATES IN EARLY TRADING WAS SEEN AS THE MARKET ADJUSTING TO A NEW TRADING RANGE AFTER YESTERDAY'S INCREASE IN BANK OF ENGLAND INTERVENTION RATES. EASY LIQUIDITY CONDITIONS ALSO PLAYED A PART.

TODAY'S AFTER FALLS ON THE U.S. NEWS SURPRISED SOME DEALERS. "THERE WAS A CONSCIOUS DECISION YESTERDAY TO PUT UP RATES HERE FOR DOMESTIC REASONS, SO WHY COME OFF ON THIS?" ASKED ONE.

Foreign Exchange				
DLR	STG	DMK	FFR	OPEN
DLR	1.7600/10	1.6885/95	5.6960/10	NOON
STG	1.7595/7605	2.9705/40	10.0260/370	NOON
DMK	1.6852/6932	2.966/980	29.565/725	FIX
FFR	5.692/705	10.0185/0365	337.03/63	FIX
SFR	1.8975-3995	2.4246-4277	81.54-65	1300
ECU	1.22253	4.69414	2.06570	6.96717
SDR	1.35761	0.774229	2.29585	7.3363
YEN	128.60/70	226.35/07		NOON
SDR RATES	01/02/88	OTHERS	02/02/1988	NOON

BUCKLEYS	187/0	186/0	HIGGS+HILL	314/0	315/0	RHP GROUP	197/0	197/0
BULMER HP	147/0	148/0	H.LMD.DIS	86/0	86/0	RODFN PLC	459/0	455/0
BURGESS	228/0	228/0	U-HOBSON	47/0	47/0	READICUT	70/0	70/0
U-CPU COM	90/0	90/0	HOGG GARD	152/0	152/0	REED ORD	343/0	343/0
CALEDONIA	343/0	340/0	HOGG TST	258/0	255/0	REED "A"	198/0	197/0
CAMB INST	55/0	55/0	HOMES PR	115/0	115/0	REEFUE JR	453/0	445/0
CAMB ELEC	121/0	121/0	HOMDEN GR	96/0	95/0	REGALION	154/0	150/0
CANNING W	187/0	185/0	U-HUGHES	100/0	101/0	REINSHAW	169/0	170/0
CAP.RADIO	192/0	190/0	IBSTK.JSE	175/0	175/0	RENTOLS	55/0	55/0
CARADON	290/0	292/0	ICE.FZ.FD	308/0	308/0	RENKIL.G	183/0	184/0
CARLESS C	110/0	109/0	IMRY INTL	375/0	375/0	ROBINSON	443/0	443/0
CARLTON C	668/0	670/0	INCHCAPE	680/0	678/0	ROCKMARE	74/0	74/0
CATER ALL	345/0	345/0	INCPNDT	38/0	38/0	ROTHSCHLD	152/0	152/0
CENTL ITV	523/0	524/0	INPDNDT W	11/0	11/0	U-RLF-NOL	175/0	175/0
CHATER CN	306/0	306/0	INT.BU.CH	108/0	107/0	ROMNEY	295/0	294/0
CHARTERHA	29/0	29/0	INVDGN.DS	214/0	214/0	ROTOROK	152/0	152/0
CHLORIDE	60/0	61/0	INVT.C.C	321/0	321/0	RUBERODIT	142/0	141/0
CHRISTIES	477/0	475/0	INT.CTY.HS	195/0	194/0	ROBY.P.CE	238/0	236/0
CIAS.CHUR	111/0	112/0	JNSH.MATH	264/0	262/0	SAGA HOLDS	176/0	176/0
U-CIFER	21/0	21/0	KALON	39/0	38/0	SALVENSEN	133/0	133/0
U-CLUFF	107/0	107/0	KENDY.BRK	275/0	275/0	SALLE G.G	44/0	44/0
CLYDE PET	127/0	127/0	KETSON	77/0	77/0	SAVOY "A"	776/0	775/0
COALITE	332/0	333/0	KLWRT.BNS	342/0	342/0	SCAPA GRP	222/0	220/0
COATES BR	380/0	375/0	KLEIN OS	114/0	113/0	SCOT.E.IT	121/0	120/0
CASE GP	55/0	56/0	KWIKFIT H	183/0	183/0	SCOT.N.HS	160/0	160/0
COLLINS W	580/0	575/0	KWIKSAVE	310/0	310/0	SCOT.IT	357/0	357/0
COLLINGS A	458/0	460/0	U-KUNICK	37/0	37/0	SCOT.IET	66/0	66/0
CNTRL.SCR	50/0	50/0	LDN.INT.G	284/0	282/0	SCOT.LT	120/0	120/0
COLOROLL	236/0	235/0	LAIRD GRP	223/0	223/0	SCOT.MORT	98/0	99/0
COSTAIN G	275/0	272/0	LAING(J)	297/0	296/0	SET NAT C	47/0	48/0
COURTS A	179/0	182/0	LAING(JJA)	297/0	296/0	SET NAT I	89/0	89/0
CREST MIC	201/0	200/0	LAING PRO	390/0	387/0	SET NAT W	13/0	13/0
CRODA INT	202/0	202/0	LAMONT HD	256/0	257/0	SCMD.ALL.	71/0	708/0
CRODA INT	115/0	115/0	LANE.SCO	108/0	98/0	SEC.T. L	100/0	100/0
CRYSTALAT	156/0	156/0	LANELESU	275/0	275/0	U-SELECTV	21/0	20/0
DARES EST	32/0	32/0	LARGE.W	116/0	116/0	SHR.ENG.G	49/0	49/0
DAVIS G	165/0	165/0	LEIGH INT	189/0	189/0	SIEBE	328/0	327/0
DAVY CP	142/0	141/0	LEICEN	298/0	297/0	SIMON ENG	270/0	269/0
DAWSON IN	214/0	214/0	LILLIE-JF	43/0	43/0	SINGER+FR	72/0	73/0
DELTA GP	264/0	263/0	LOGICA	280/0	279/0	600 GROUP	100/0	100/0
U-DEMEY W	99/0	100/0	LDH+MCHR	97/0		U-STH BUS	315/0	315/0
DRG PLC	390/0	390/0	LDH+MCHT	305/0	304/0	SLOUGH ES	248/0	248/0
DIPLOMA	192/0	192/0	LDH+MET	155/0	153/0	SMITH D	357/0	358/0
DORSON PK	102/0	102/0	LDN INV T	33/0	33/0	SMITH W-A	317/0	312/0
DOUGLAS R	277/0	277/0	LASMO CPU	158/0	158/0	SMITH W-B	64/0	64/0
DRAUGHTON	828/0	820/0	LDN.U.TD.I	198/0	198/0	SMITHS IN	234/0	234/0
DRAYTON C	438/0	438/0	LOVELL HD	226/0	226/0	SPON.O+AS	115/0	114/0
DUNHILL	164/0	165/0	LYNTHON PD	338/0	335/0	SPONG RLD	18/0	18/0
EAGLE TST	18/0	18/0	LOW+BOWD	195/0	194/0	SPRING RA	191/0	192/0
EAG TST RF	18/0	17/0	LOW+CO (W	574/0	573/0	SPRX-SURGE	180/0	180/0
U-EALING	55/0	55/0	LWT HOME	346/0	347/0	STARC HL	430/0	433/0
EDIN AMER	101/0	102/0	LDH+HCHT	97/0		STAKES	95/0	96/0
EDIN IT	150/0	149/0	LDH+MCHR	305/0	304/0	U-STHROPE	192/0	195/0
U-ELDRGE	337/0	337/0	LDH+MET	155/0	153/0	STANLEY A	168/0	168/0
ELECTRA I	195/0	194/0	LDN INV T	33/0	33/0	STVLY.IND	156/0	156/0
ELECTROHM	185/0	185/0	LASMO CPU	158/0	158/0	STEELTY	325/0	325/0
ELEC REGR	98/0	98/0	LDN.U.TD.I	198/0	198/0	STURMGLAR	13/0	13/0
ELLIS EVA	171/0	171/0	LOVELL HD	226/0	226/0	STURGLAR	13/0	13/0
EMAP PLC	199/0	198/0	LOW+BOWD	195/0	194/0	TV.SA.WLD	71/0	71/0
ELLIS GOL	65/0	65/0	LOW+CO (W	574/0	573/0	TYLR.WDRO	385/0	387/0
EMPIRE ST	238/0	239/0	LWT HOME	346/0	347/0	TELE.SOUT	351/0	350/0
ETAM	277/0	278/0	LDH+HCHT	97/0		U-TWO AVT	164/0	165/0
EUROTHERM	323/0	322/0	LDH+MCHR	305/0	304/0	TIE RACK	136/0	137/0
EURON TR	240/0	239/0	LDH+MET	155/0	153/0	TIG GROUP	338/0	338/0
EURO RRG	14/0	14/0	LDN INV T	33/0	33/0	TIME PROD	162/0	161/0
EVERED HL	108/0	108/0	LASMO CPU	158/0	158/0	TELEMETRI	30/0	30/0
EVROPE GP	155/0	154/0	LDN.U.TD.I	198/0	198/0	TEPLX.REN	27/0	28/0
U-EUPHAR	31/0	31/0	LOVELL HD	226/0	226/0	TEPLX.B.J	211/0	210/0
FCT BACOK	130/0	130/0	LOW+BOWD	195/0	194/0	TEPLX.C	239/0	238/0
FARNELL E	163/0	161/0	LOW+CO (W	574/0	573/0	TOOTAL GR	117/0	116/0
FED.HOUSE	203/0	203/0	LWT HOME	346/0	347/0	TRIMMOO G	34/0	35/0
FENNER JH	159/0	158/0	LDH+HCHT	97/0		TRIMMOO W	21/0	21/0
FERGUSON	304/0	303/0	LDH+MCHR	305/0	304/0	TRSPK.DE	229/0	230/0
U-FIELDS M	132/0	133/0	LDH+MET	155/0	153/0	TRAVISAR	322/0	323/0
FINE ARTS	235/0	235/0	LDN INV T	33/0	33/0	TR.INDUS	107/0	107/0
FILMAN GP	86/0	85/0	LASMO CPU	158/0	158/0	TR.PAC.IN	38/0	39/0
FLENNING J	189/0	188/0	LDN.U.TD.I	198/0	198/0	TRICONTROL	195/0	193/0
F & C PAC	114/0	113/0	LOVELL HD	226/0	226/0	TR CITY LO	69/0	70/0
FINLAY J	94/0	95/0	LOW+BOWD	195/0	194/0	TR PROP	85/0	86/0
FIRST LEI	530/0	531/0	LOW+CO (W	574/0	573/0	TR TRSTEE	111/0	111/0
FIRST MAT	239/0	240/0	LWT HOME	346/0	347/0	TRINOCO	29/0	30/0
FST SCOT	384/0	384/0	LDH+HCHT	97/0		TRITON ER	164/0	164/0
FITCH LOV	273/0	273/0	LDH+MCHR	305/0	304/0	U-TSS CHA	146/0	146/0
FORCOL IT	103/0	103/0	LDH+MET	155/0	153/0	TURRIF C	269/0	270/0
FORCOE NI	219/0	217/0	LDN INV T	33/0	33/0	T.TEES TV	558/0	556/0
FREEMAN	315/0	313/0	LASMO CPU	158/0	158/0	TYNDALL N	148/0	147/0
FLMG.FE.I	162/0	161/0	LDN.U.TD.I	198/0	198/0	ULSTER TV	91/0	89/0
FLMG.FE.II	162/0	162/0	LOVELL HD	226/0	226/0	UNDERWOOD	138/0	137/0
FLMG.MERC	162/0	162/0	LOW+BOWD	195/0	194/0	UNIDCOUN	825/0	828/0
FLMG.OSEA	149/0	148/0	LOW+CO (W	574/0	573/0	UNITECH	215/0	216/0
F.R GROUP	282/0	283/0	LWT HOME	346/0	347/0	U.E.I.	355/0	358/0
U-FLOYD O	29/0	29/0	LDH+HCHT	97/0		UTD.SCITF	200/0	200/0
FRESHBAKE	100/0	100/0	LDH+MCHR	305/0	304/0	UTD.WSTH	40/0	40/0
U-FORD M	89/0	90/0	LDH+MET	155/0	153/0	UTD.WSTH	40/0	40/0
GEEST PLC	245/0	244/0	LDN INV T	33/0	33/0	VAG INSTAT	405/0	405/0
GFI INTL	119/0	119/0	LASMO CPU	158/0	158/0	VAGX GROUP	526/0	526/0
GERRO.EMAT	313/0	310/0	LDN.U.TD.I	198/0	198/0	VERSON	21/0	21/0
GV			LOVELL HD	226/0	226/0	VICKERS	165/0	163/0
GVT ORIE	194/0	193/0	LOW+BOWD	195/0	194/0	VIRKING RS.	52/0	52/0
GUESTNER	241/0	239/0	LOW+CO (W	574/0	573/0	VIRKIN GP	123/0	123/0
GVTY ATMD	446/0	446/0	LDH+HCHT	97/0		WADN.HBGS	280/0	278/0
GVTY GNT	214/0	214/0	LDH+MCHR	305/0	304/0	W.BRINKTON	192/0	193/0
GREYCOAT	316/0	316/0	LDH+MET	155/0	153/0	WARDENK	103/0	103/0
GRMPN.TV	47/0	46/0	LDN INV T	33/0	33/0	WARDWBS	334/0	334/0
GRNP.TV.H	242/0	241/0	LASMO CPU	158/0	158/0	WDR.UHNT.GP	303/0	303/0
GRA GRP	117/0	117/0	LDN.U.TD.I	198/0	198/0	WTSN+PHIL	221/0	220/0
GT PTIND	295/0	294/0	LOVELL HD	226/0	226/0	WATES CITY	167/0	167/0
INT.UNIV.S	688/0	700/0	LOW+BOWD	195/0	194/0	WATTS B+B	274/0	278/0
GRNHL.WTL	179/0	180/0	LWT HOME	346/0	347/0	U-WAYNE K	55/0	55/0
GRG.KINGA	492/0	492/0	LDH+HCHT	97/0		WELLMAN	43/0	43/0
GRN.TV GROUP	84/0	84/0	LDH+MCHR	305/0	304/0	WESTLAND	88/0	88/0
GTW TV	269/0	267/0	LDH+MET	155/0	153/0	WESY GROU	233/0	230/0
HAWK (W)	125/0	125/0	LDN INV T	33/0	33/0	WHARF PL	31/0	31/0
HAWORTH C	194/0	194/0	PACOML DU	336/0	337/0	WHREAY NW	30/0	30/0
HRSH+CRSF	580/0	578/0	PAENKIN D	115/0	114/0	WIDNEY	40/0	40/0
U-HUTURN	26/0	26/0	PREED	125/0	121/0	WLINS.HLD	272/0	270/0
HEATH (CE	398/0	400/0	PRFOOT A	250/0	250/0	U-INS.LEI	59/0	59/0
HENDRSH.GR	332/0	333/0	U-PROP TS	3/2	3/2	WILSON BW	178/0	178/0
HPWTH.CRN	235/0	235/0	Q-QUEEN M	87/0	88/0	WILKCHND	317/0	317/0
HOLD-STUR	120/0	120/0	RAGLAN PR	21/0	21/0	WILSON SW	250/0	250/0
HOYWOOD W	265/0	264/0	RAINE IN	93/0	93/0	WOLW.DLEY	369/0	370/0
HICKSN.TN	154/0	153/0	U-RANDS T	125/0	124/0	WOLSELEY	249/0	250/0
			RATNERS	204/0	204/0	UPP	440/0	440/0
						U-VYKO GR	65/0	65/0

کتابخانه ملی افغانستان

ANIMAN

ANNMAN	JOR LINE AND BRICK	0.24	0.25
	JOR MANAG/CONSULT	---	---
	JOB MATERIALS/PAINT	5.45	5.45

	OPNG	CLSG
JOR NATIONAL BANK	2.42	2.42
JOR PAPER CARDBRDG	2.91	2.87
JOR PHOSPHATE MINS	3.52	3.46

AL HIME MINERALS	0.79	0.79	JOR PROSPRATE MINS	2.30	2.40
AL-NISER EXCHANGE	0.89	0.90	JOR PIPES MANUFACT	1.14	1.14
ALA-ADDIM COMPANY	1.31	1.31	JOR PRESS/PUBLISH.	2.11	2.15

ARAB ALUMINUM IND.	1.90	1.86	JOR PRINTING/PACK.	3.00	3.00
ARAB BANK	122.2	122.0	JOR ROCK WOOL IND.	0.67	0.67

ARAB CHEMICAL DTER	4.81	4.81	JOR SECURIT. CORP	0.91	0.91
ARAB FINANCE CORP.	1.47	1.48	JOR TIMBER PROCES.	0.17	0.17

Interest Rates

FOLLOWING are the average KD interest rates of local inter-bank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait yesterday.

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	4-11/16	5-3/16
3 months	4-5/8	5-1/16
6 months	4-9/16	5-1/16
1 year	5	4-9/16

INDUSTRIAL INVEST	--
INTERMED/PETRO/CH	1.

IRBID ELECTRICITY	0.96	0.97	ORIENT DRY BATTERY	0.25	0.28
ISLAWIC INV. HOUSE	0.64	0.64	PETRA BANK	2.10	2.10
J.PRESS FOUNDATION	3.50	3.20	PETRA ENTERPRISES	0.62	0.61
JERUSALEM INS.	1.34	1.28	PETRA JOR. INS.	0.50	0.50
JO TOBACCO/CIGARET	13.20	13.20	PHILADELPHIA INS.	0.69	0.72
JOR CEMENT FACT.	1.01	1.00	RAFTA INDUSTRIAL	0.80	0.80
JOR CERAMIC FACTOR	1.05	1.06	REAL ESTATE INV.	0.43	0.42
JOR EAGLE INS.	25.01	25.05	SPINNING WEAVING	0.94	0.94
JOR ELECTRIC POWER	1.46	1.46	THE HOUSING BANK	1.58	1.58
JOR FINANCE HOUSE	1.23	1.20	UNITED INSURANCE	2.50	2.50
JOR GLASS INDUSTRY	1.07	1.06	UNIVERSAL CHEN.IND	1.77	1.76
JOR HOTEL TOURISM	2.50	2.50	UNIVERSAL INS.	0.72	0.74
JOR INDUSTRY CHEN.	1.44	1.45	WOOLEN INDUSTRIES	0.73	0.70
JOR INS AND FIN.	1.22	1.21	YARNOUK INSURANCE	1.10	1.10

FOIA b

STOCK	LAST	PR-CLSE	MITSUB CP	1100	1130
ALLJNOMOTO	3260	3340	MITSUB EST	580	595
AKAI ELEC	480	480	MITSUB ELB	2040	2060
AOKI	920	928	MITSUB HWY	570	583
ASARI GAS	1760	1800	MITSUB CO	714	724
ASAHI OPT	565	595	MITSUKOSHI	1550	1550
BAIK TOKYO	1400	1410	MITSUMI EI	1070	1080
BRIDGESTON	1280	1290	NICHICON	749	750
CANON	980	984	NIKKO CHMT	1650	1660
CASIO COMP	1170	1170	NIP ELEC	2000	1990
CHUNAI MFG	0	1600	NIP KKKOAN	287	290
CITIZEN W	600	618	NIP OIL	1120	1140
D-1CHI KAN	3100	3130	NIP STEEL	386	391
DAI NIP IK	745	742	NIP YUSEN	528	525
DAI NIP PT	2500	2470	NIS MOTR	782	780
DAI NIP SC	970	905	NOMURA SEC	3180	3250
DAI NIP TO	464	461	ONBA CO	990	995
DAICEL	753	775	ONYMA	1030	1050
DAIGUN	1800	1820	PLATIA OCM	825	816
DAIDAI SEC	2030	2038	SPRINGER ATTEN	2890	2740
EBRA MFG	875	869	REINOL	802	806
EISAI	2250	2250	RICOH	1220	1230
FUJITSU	1420	1450	SANKYO	1990	2020
FUJI BANK	3250	3250	SANYO ELEC	490	491
FUJI PHOTO	3950	3940	SEIYU ST	2090	2020
FUJISAMA	1970	1980	SEKISUI PB	1730	1750
FUJITA CP	680	670	SHARP	950	946
HITACHI	1230	1260	SHISEIDO	1600	1650
HONDA MOT	1370	1360	SONY	4720	4720
ISETAN	1320	1310	SUNITOMO	990	1010
ITO YOKADO	4030	4000	TAISEI	873	883
JAP SYN RW	1030	952	TAISNO MRN	1110	1150
JAPAN AIR	13000	13200	TAKEDA CH	3030	3060
JAPAN MET	415	425	TEIJJIN	751	762
KAJIMA	1460	1480	TKO NEW IX	15.84	925.83
KANSAI EL	2600	2600	TOKIO MRN	1910	1930
KAO SOAP	1890	1900	TOKYO ELEC	1100	1140
KAWASAKI S	307	316	TOKYO GAS	986	985
KAWASAKI H	340	344	TOKYO POHR	5210	5270
KIRIN BREW	2080	2120	TOSHIMA LTD	730	730
KONATSU	599	599	TOSHIBA EI	732	738
KUBATO LTD	556	550	TOTO	2100	2100
KYOCERA	5260	5340	TOYO KKOGY	428	420
MAKITA EL	1640	1680	TOYOTA MOT	1900	1880
MARUI	3060	3050	YAMANA	920	921
MATSUDA EI	2220	2270	YAMAICHT	1660	1660
MATSUDA EI	2160	2180	YAMAMOTOJI	3920	3940
MEIJI SEIK	930	930	YAMAZAKI	1410	1470

Tokyo Stock Market Report

TOKYO STOCKS CLOSE LOWER IN LIGHT TRADE
 TOKYO, FEB 2 - SHARE PRICES CLOSED LOWER IN THIN TRADE ON
 PROFIT-TAKING IN FINANCIALS AND DECLINES IN EXPORT-RELATED
 SECTORS DUE TO A LOWER DOLLAR, BROKERS SAID.
 THE NIKKEI AVERAGE FELL 60.11 POINTS, OR 0.25 PCT, TO
 23,672.21. THE INDEX FIRMED 13.19 POINTS ON MONDAY.
 DECLINES LED ADVANCES FOUR TO THREE IN TURNOVER OF 500 MLN
 SHARES AGAINST 630 MLN ON MONDAY.
 NON-LIFE INSURANCE, SECURITIES HOUSE, PHARMACEUTICAL,
 BANK, ELECTRONIC, AIRLINE, PRECISION INSTRUMENT, FOOD AND
 SHIPBUILDING SHARES LED THE FALL.
 COMMUNICATIONS, RUBBER, WAREHOUSE, TRUCKING, PULP/PAPER,
 ROLLING STOCK, RETAIL, TEXTILE AND SOME MANUFACTURING SHARES
 ROSE.
 THE MARKET WAS CAUTIOUS AHEAD OF THE RESULTS OF THE U.S.
 QUARTERLY TREASURY REFUNDING, AND WITH WALL STREET'S WEAK
 SHOWING ON MONDAY PROVIDING LITTLE DIRECTION, INTEREST IN
 LARGE CAPITALISATION STOCKS WAS LIMITED, BROKERS SAID.
 FINANCIALS AND OTHER INTEREST-RATE SENSITIVE SHARES,
 PICKED UP LAST WEEK DUE TO A CUT IN THE JAPANESE LONG-TERM
 PRIME RATE, CONTINUED TO DECLINE ON PROFIT-TAKING, BROKERS
 SAID.
 THE MARKET IS STILL WEIGHING RUMOURS OF COORDINATED
 DISCOUNT RATE CUTS BY THE U.S., WEST GERMANY AND JAPAN,
 ALTHOUGH SOME INVESTORS ARE SCEPTICAL.
 "WITH THIS STABLE EXCHANGE RATE, THEY WILL NOT BE CUT SO
 EASILY," SAID A FUND MANAGER AT A MAJOR JAPANESE LIFE
 INSURANCE COMPANY. "AND IF THEY GO DOWN ANY LOWER, ALL THERE
 WILL BE TO DO LATER IS RAISE THEM AGAIN."
 SOME BROKERS SAID THAT WITH THE THREE-DAY U.S. BOND
 AUCTION BEGINNING LATER TODAY A CUT IN THE U.S. DISCOUNT RATE
 IN THE NEAR FUTURE IS HIGHLY UNLIKELY.

Singapore Stock Market Report

SINGAPORE STOCKS CLOSED marginally LOWER
SINGAPORE, FEB 2 - THE STOCK MARKET CLOSED marginally LOWER
OVER A BROAD FRONT., EXTENDING MONDAY'S SHARP DECLINE, ON LACK OF
BUYING SUPPORT AND SOME LIQUIDATION IN LETHARGIC TRADING,
BROKERS SAID.

DEALERS SAID SENTIMENT REMAINED UNDERMINED BY NEWS THAT
SINGAPORE WOULD BE WITHDRAWN FROM THE U.S. GENERALISED SYSTEM OF
REFERENCES WITH EFFECT FROM JANUARY, 1989. INSTITUTIONS KEPT TO
THE SIDELINES UNWILLING TO TAKE FRESH POSITIONS.

THE MARKET WAS EASIER FROM THE OUTSET AND PRICES CONTINUED
TO FALL SLIGHTLY IN THE AFTERNOON AS SOME LOCAL INVESTORS
LIQUIDATED THEIR POSITIONS TO TAKE PROFITS OR CUT LOSSES.

Foreign Currency Selling Rates



THE GULF BANK A B C

Indian Rupees		21 075.
Pakistani Rupees		15,825
Sri Lankan Rupees		8,980
Philippine Peso		13,330
US dollars		276.55
Sterling Pounds		488.70
Dow Jones Market Fund	Bad	USD 12.99
	Other	USD 13.02
	Bad	USD 5.45
	Other	USD 5.90
The Islamic Fund		KD 5.00%
Golden Investors		USD 5.550%
		GBP 7.25%
		SFR 1.00%

FOLLOWING are international currency rates as quoted by local banks and announced by the Central Bank of Kuwait yesterday:

	Buying	Selling
US dlr	27505	27653
Stg.	4834	4884
D M	16250	16440
S. fr	1990	20170
F. fr	04826	04872
It lira	0002211	0002234
J. yen	0021127	002154
B dinar	7310	7340
UAE dir	0750	07530
S. ryal	07340	7370
Q. ryal	0757	0760
Q. ryal	7160	7180

KD deposit rates firm

SHORT-DATED Kuwaiti dinar deposit rates firmed yesterday for the fourth consecutive day as banks covered positions exposed by Wednesday's 80 million dinar one-year treasury bond issue and last week's treasury bills.

But dealers expressed surprise at the strength of the market since it remained liquid from January salary payment and November treasury bills were due to mature later this month. Overnight remained depressed, dealing at 1/2 per cent, but tomorrow-next and spot-next firmed to 6-1/2 and 7-1/2 per cent, respectively, from six per cent levels on Monday.

Steady
One-week was quoted at 6-1/4, 5-1/4 per cent from five per cent levels and this helped keep the fixed rates steady despite slack

One-month was quoted at 5-1/2, five per cent, three and six-month at 5-1/8, 4-5/8 per cent and one-year at 5-1/2, five per cent.

The Central Bank dinar exchange rate was slightly firmer at 0.27584/94 to the dollar from Monday's 0.27611/21, with commercial banks quoting around 0.27585/95.

Meanwhile Saudi Riyal inter-bank deposits showed little direction yesterday in a quiet market unsettled by continued uncertainty over timing of a government bond issue.

Traders said some maturities were marked fractionally easier, but rates generally remained locked in a tight range.

248101

STOCK		LAST	PR-CLSE	OE BUEHR I	830	850
BAER HDGS	10500	10700		OE BUEHR N	210.0	210.0
BALOISE PS	1925	2000		OE BUEHR P	210.0	220.0
BBC PS		0	240.0	ROCHE B	9675	9675
BK LEU I	2450	2450		ROCHE I	0	94000
BK LEU N	2300	2300		RUECKVER I	11550	11725
BK LEU PS	395	400		RUECKVER N	6250	6300
CFV		0	1120	RUECKVER P	1875	1890
CIB GETG I	2660	2665		RY TR BK	965	955
CIB GETG N	1350	1380		S BNKGSIL I	3015	3040
CIB GETG P	1780	1795		S BNKGSIL N	590	588
CGW		0	1250	S BNKGSIL P	113.0	113.0
CRED SUI I	2365	2375		S BNKVRN I	316	321
CRED SUI N	468	468		S BNKVRN N	272	273
EG LAUFEN	1950	1950		S BNKVRN P	274	276
ELEKTROMAT	2900	2900		SANDOZ I	12250	12100
ENS CHEN I	2775	2775		SANDOZ N	4775	4775
ENS CHEN P		0		SANDOZ PS	1850	1850
GLOBUS I	7000	7050		SULZER I	3475	3500
GLOBUS N		0	6500	SULZER PS	297	300
GLOBUS PS	1100	1100		SVB	1645	1660
JACOBS S I	7925	8300		SMTSAIR I	1020	1025
JACOBS S N	1600	1575		SMTSAIR N	920	930
JACOBS S P	668	670		W THUR I	4975	5000
JELN I	2100	2100		W THUR N	2600	2575
JELN PS	330	340		W THUR PS	670	675
LANDIS N	1020	1040		ZURICH I	5275	5250
LANDIS PS	89.00	90.00		ZURICH N	2550	2550
MERCK I	665	670		ZURICH PS	1740	1770

Credit ratings of five big banks downgraded

NEW YORK, Feb. 2, (AP): A major credit rating firm lowered its ratings for five of its biggest US banking companies yesterday, citing their continued exposure to troubled foreign loans.

The change was Standard and Poor's Corp.'s second downgrade affecting the banking industry in less than a year due to its concerns about the Third World debt problem. All but two of the affected securities issues,

totaling about \$24 billion, remained of investment quality.

At the same time, S and P affirmed the credit ratings of Citicorp, Bankers Trust New York Corp. and J.P. Morgan and Co. due in part to their low or declining exposure to the debt of less developed countries.

Losses

"The debt load of Latin American and other LDCs continues to impose short-term debt-servicing and long-term asset quality problems," S and P said in a statement. "While bank institutions restructure their business to focus on profitable

Covered

Ratings were lowered for Chase Manhattan Corp. of New York, the nation's second largest bank holding company;

Bankamerica Corp. of San Francisco, No. 3; Chemical New York Corp. of New York, No. 4; Manufacturers Hanover Corp. of New York, No. 6; and First Chicago Corp. of Chicago, No. 11.

The ratings helped determine interest rate levels for companies

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Major US banks slash prime lending rates

NEW YORK, Feb. 2, (AP): Several major American commercial banks lowered their prime lending rates today a quarter percentage point to 8.5 per cent, reflecting a recent overall decline in interest rates.

The cuts, effective immediately, were announced by Morgan Guaranty Trust Co., Chemical Bank, Continental Illinois National Bank and Trust Co., Chase Manhattan Bank and Citibank.

They were the major banks' first cuts in the key lending rate this year and the second since early November, when the prime was lowered to 8.75 per cent from 9 per cent. The reduction placed the prime at its lowest since July 1986, when the rate was reduced to 8 per cent from 8.5 per cent.

The prime rate is a benchmark used by banks to set interest rates on a variety of corporate and consumer loans, including mortgages.

Today's action continues a trend toward lower interest rates in the credit markets following the Oct. 19 stock market crash.

Declining interest rates often stimulate economic growth by making corporate and individual borrowing less expensive.

Analysts said today's action had been expected, given the trend toward lower interest rates since the Oct. 19 stock market crash and speculation that the Federal Reserve — the American Central Bank — might be easing credit to help prevent a recession.

The rate cuts had little effect on the stock market, which was lower in early trading, but the bond market rallied following the news, with the Bellwether 30-year US Treasury bond up nearly 35 for each \$1,000 in face value from late Monday.

"There were rumours last week ... the market was primed for it," said Carol A. Stone, a senior economist at Nomura Securities Inc.

As rates have declined during recent months, so has the banks' cost of borrowing money and paying interest on deposit accounts. The prime rate generally is a reflection of that cost of funds.

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY, Feb. 2, (Reuters): The market bounced back to close cautiously firmer as bargain hunters pulled stocks up from early losses. The All Ordinaries index rose 2.3 to 1,240.6.

TOKYO: Prices closed lower on profit-taking in financials and declines in export-related sectors due to a weaker dollar. The Nikkei Average fell 60.11 to 23,671.21.

HONG KONG: Prices closed sharply lower in this trade, pushed down by speculative selling while buying support was limited. The Hang Seng index fell 99.77 to 2,298.50.

SINGAPORE: Stocks closed marginally lower over a broad front, extending Monday's sharp decline, on lack of buying support and some liquidation in lethargic trade. The Straits Times industrial index fell 3.79 to 888.20.

BOMBAY: Shares improved selectively on continued speculative support in moderate dealing. Tata Steel rose 2.5 rupees to 631.25 and Associated Cement three to 164.

FRANKFURT: Prices ended mostly down but off the day's lows on a little late buying interest in a thin market. The Commerzbank index calculated at mid-session was up six points at 1,232.1.

ZURICH: Prices closed slightly lower in quiet trading in the absence of a clear trend in New York or Tokyo.

PARIS: Prices ended firmer for a second day in moderately active trading. The 50-share bourse indicator rose 2.08 per cent.

LONDON: Shares were mixed to easier, showing only a short-lived rally in response to prime rate cuts by US banks. The FTSE-100 index at 1,538 GMT was down 1.3 to 1,775.6.

NEW YORK: Wall Street was lower in morning trading on some arbitrage-related selling despite prime rate cuts by US banks. The Dow Jones industrial average was off 15 at 1,930.

The two airlines also can choose their own intermediate stops on the way, and fly beyond Singapore and Bahrain with full traffic rights, the authority's statement said.

The management and staff of Madco Gulf (a member of the Madco Group) held their annual luncheon party recently. They are seen with the founding member and managing partner of Madco Group, Burhan S. Beidas. The Madco Group is an advertising and marketing network in the Middle East, with offices in Kuwait, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon and the United States. During 1987 the Group registered a healthy growth in billings.

Dollar eases and gold moves up

LONDON, Feb. 2, (Agencies): The US dollar closed generally lower on major European money markets today. Gold was up.

The American currency finished the day in Frankfurt at 1.6892 Deutschmarks, down from Monday's closing 1.6911, in Zurich at 1.3755 Swiss francs against 1.3900, and in Brussels at 35.35 Belgian francs against 35.40.

The dollar fell in Amsterdam, closing at 1.8900 Dutch guilders against Monday's final 1.9020, and in Milan at 1,243.10 lire against 1,244.05.

Strengthened
In London, the pound sterling strengthened to close at \$1.7685 against Monday's closing \$1.7580.

The dollar scored its lone gain in Paris, where it closed at 5.6990 francs against Monday's closing 5.6965.

Earlier, the dollar closed in Tokyo at 128.90 yen, down slightly from Monday's finishing 129.

Lower
London's FTSE 100-share index opened lower but then firmed slightly and by midday was 6.5 points up on Monday's close at 1,783.4. In Tokyo, the world's

biggest market, the 225-share Nikkei index eased 60.11 points to 23,672.21.

"Trading is very quiet, there is very little confidence in this market," an Amsterdam share dealer said.

Dealers said the dollar has been buoyed because of forecasts that foreigners will be big buyers in the US treasury's three-day quarterly bond auction, which begins today.

"The dollar is holding up well. It is still almost two pennings higher than Friday. We look for a further rally today," said the chief dealer of a major US bank's Frankfurt unit.

But others were less confident.

Investors
"Japanese investors are going to buy US Treasury bonds in moderate amounts and the refinancing will be successful," said a senior currency dealer at a US bank in Tokyo.

"But the market has focused its interest on US December trade data due out next week," he added.

Many believe the trade deficit will again be down. The US economy is sluggish and consumers do not seem to be buying as

many imports. Few, however, are ready to play the markets very aggressively until the figure is reported next week.

West German shares slipped, with Frankfurt's 30-share Boersen-Zeitung index eased 1.32 points to 225.26.

Slipped

Amsterdam's CBS All-Share index slipped 0.4 points to open at 7.19. The All-Share Swiss index slipped 4.4 points to 771.2 and the Paris bourse indicator slipped 0.65 per cent.

Hong Kong's Hang Seng index fell 99.77 points or 2.5 per cent, to 2,298.50. Dealers said few foreign investors were active and that speculators dominated today's session.

Singapore shares eased but Sydney's All-Ordinaries index edged 2.3 points higher to 1,240.6.

Gold strengthened, closing in Zurich at \$457 per ounce against Monday's final \$451.45, and in London at \$456.25 per ounce against \$451.50.

Silver was up, closing in Zurich at \$6.55 per ounce against Monday's closing \$6.53 and in London at \$6.62 per ounce against \$6.53.

Lack of clear forward planning hits trade

Gold market suffers setbacks

THE local gold market has been affected by the setbacks in the international monetary markets, according to gold shop owners. They said many people sold the gold they kept as an investment and were waiting for the price to drop still further before buying again.

A number of gold merchants were interviewed by a local newspaper for their views on gold prices and other matters affecting them.

They said that the specialised market system had achieved success locally, but pointed out that shop rents were high. They added that the shops were distributed by ballot and the shops did not meet their requirements because they were not consulted before the new market was built.

Security
They said the market area did not have sufficient parking space, lacked security measures and advertisements.

They regretted that the market administration was only concerned of collecting rents and paying salaries, and did not care

whether the market was active or stagnant. They stressed that these and other factors created a nightmare for them.

One gold merchant, Abdul Karim Sultan, said the local gold market was affected indirectly by the setback in share prices and currencies.

He said the stagnation in the market was caused by the bad situation surrounding the area in the first place and by the lack of clear forward planning.

Sultan said that demands for dowries by some Arab tribes had a negative effect on gold purchases. The large number of gold shops at one location also helped create more stagnation.

Restrictions
The system of inspection and restrictions applied by the market administration did not give shop owners full freedom in decorating their shops.

He said the distribution of shops among merchants by ballot was unfair, and shops with good locations were awarded to unprofessional gold dealers and

true merchants were given basement shops.

Another merchant, Ahmad Al Hindi, said that gold prices were stable compared to currencies.

He said he had two shops at the market, faced losses in decorating them and had to give up the shops due to lack of customers.

The locality was not suitable and the presence of guards deterred customers.

Customers
He said that the market's officials should put more emphasis on advertising the market instead of taking strict measures against the merchants.

He pointed out that customers were accustomed to ordinary security and not the complicated measures taken at the gold market.

He suggested that a consulting committee consisting of experienced gold merchants should replace the present administration.

He also called on Kuwait Municipality not to grant any more licences for gold shops in the capital.

US, Japan and allies committed for the first time

Fresh move to tighten controls on exports to Moscow

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2, (AP): Sixteen allied governments — including the United States, Japan and West Germany — have publicly committed themselves for the first time to tighten controls on exports to the Soviet Union, in a statement distributed today.

"They recognised that the achievement and maintenance of more effectively enforced and committed controls is necessary to protect their advantage in strategically sensitive technology essential to their security," the statement says.

A meeting was held last Wednesday and Thursday at Versailles, near Paris. The US delegation was headed by deputy secretary of State John C. Whitehead. Also represented were the governments of Belgium, Lux-

embourg, Canada, Denmark, France, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Turkey and Britain.

Further such high level meetings are to be held at least once a year.

Allies

Since 1949 the allies have limited their shipments to the Soviet Union, China, Hungary, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Poland, East Germany, Romania, Albania, North Korea, Mongolia and Vietnam. The joint list of banned goods includes about 1,200 items.

The Versailles meeting was called because of the anger in this country at the disclosure that Toshiba Corp. of Japan and Kongsberg Vasefabrik as of Norway had sold equipment to the Soviets that would make it

harder for the allies to detect Soviet submarines. Some of those submarines carry nuclear weapons. There is strong sentiment in Congress, opposed by President Ronald Reagan's administration, to take action against Japan.

The governments that met are members of the Coordinating Committee on Multilateral Export Controls (Cocom), organised in Paris. For almost 40 years Cocom has been considered so secret that officials avoid saying just where its headquarters are located.

US officials who refused to be identified distributed on Monday what they said was an agreed statement, the first substantial announcement in Cocom's history. It was not jointly released; each government was left to

Consumer spending likely to grow at a lower rate

US leading indicators fall 0.2 pc

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2, (Reuters): The index of leading indicators, a key barometer of future economic activity, fell in December by 0.2 per cent, the Commerce Department reported today.

The slight decline was within the expectations of financial analysts. It was the third monthly drop in a row of the key indicator and the first time there were three consecutive monthly drops since the June-August period in 1984, the department said.

The rule-of-thumb is that three consecutive monthly drops in the index could indicate a recession.

Analysts
Financial analysts had expected the index to remain flat or show a slight decline in December.

Many economists believe the US economy will slow significantly during the first part of the year after a robust level of growth last year. Although some economists believe the US economy may have already entered a recession, most say they see a slowdown but no decline in growth.

The December decline in the index followed a revised 1.2 per cent fall in November and 0.1 per cent drop in October, the Commerce Department said.

The department previously reported the index had fallen 1.7 per cent in November and risen 0.2 per cent in October. The December figure could also be revised as the department collects more data.

Decline
The department said that since World War II the index had fallen for three months in a row on 12 occasions. In eight of these cases the country had entered a recession, the department said.

Commerce Department officials said the decline in the most recent three-month period, which included the October 19 stock market crash, was much less severe than in the periods that portended previous recessions.

A recession would be bad news for Republicans, who are anxious to keep the current expansion going at least through the November general elections. A recession would give Democrats

plenty of ammunition in their battle to gain control of the White House.

The administration has said it expects gross national product (GNP) to grow by 2.4 per cent above the inflation rate this year.

Five of nine economic indicators fell in December, led by building permits. Other negative contributors were changes in sensitive materials prices, higher average weekly first-time jobless claims, lower stock prices and a shorter average work week.

Positive

Four indicators were positive, led by contracts and orders for plant and equipment, a key indicator of capital spending. Other positive contributors were vendor performance, manufacturers' new orders for consumer goods and materials, and money supply, the department said.

The index of coincident indicators, which measures the current economy, rose 0.8 per cent in December after falling 0.4 per cent in November.

The index of lagging indicators, which measures past economic activity, rose 0.7 per

cent in December after an identical increase in November.

The US economy grew strongly in 1987. GNP grew at a 4.2 per cent annual rate during the last three months of 1987, bringing growth for the year to 3.8 per cent.

But much of the growth during the fourth quarter was attributed to a surge in inventories of unsold goods, which does not bode well for growth during the first part of 1988.

If inventories continue to pile up on the shelves, manufacturers are likely to slow output.

Spending

Consumer spending, which has helped fuel the current economic expansion now in its sixth year, is expected to grow at a slower rate. As a result, many economists have predicted economic growth will slow to less than two per cent during the first half of 1988.

But economists and administration officials hope the export boom that has been sparked by the lower value of the dollar will help sustain a moderate level of growth this year.

South Korea must open its markets to foreign goods

'Little tiger' cornered by trade woes

SEOUL, Feb. 2, (UPI): North Asia's economic 'little tiger' finally has been cornered.

After years of negotiating with the United States and Europe, South Korea is faced with concrete threats from its trading partners who say it must open its markets to foreign goods or face limits on exports, the nation's economic lifeline.

South Korea argues its domestic markets are not strong enough to compete with foreign goods. But a stunning economic performance has blunted that argument in the eyes of overseas trade negotiators.

The battle lines are being drawn this year around a US demand to open South Korean markets to American beef, cigarettes and insurance companies. The European Economic Community and Canada also are threatening sanctions.

The United States backed off during South Korea's presidential election late last year. But soon afterward, American trade

negotiators pushed again.

The US demands sparked heated demonstrations by Korean farmers who were tear-gassed away from the American embassy but stormed the South Korean economic planning board building, breaking dozens of windows and overturning several cars.

Price

Reaction to demands to lower the government-set price of foreign cigarettes was less violent, but local newspapers ran banner headlines over allegations about some American cigarettes contained cancer-causing chemicals.

South Koreans have argued for years that this newly industrialising nation's domestic market needed time to gain strength before competing with international products.

But other countries point to year-end economic figures that showed the South Korean economy booming, with a record annual growth rate of about 12

per cent in 1987.

Exports accounted for 40 per cent of gross national product in 1987, and the United States consumed 40 per cent of them, a strong incentive for South Korea to attempt to blunt trade restrictions.

Korean officials are pinned between US threats to the export lifeline and the possibility of backlash from domestic producers, particularly worrisome to the ruling Democratic Justice Party in advance of upcoming national assembly elections.

System

The United States warned late last year that South Korea likely would be removed from the generalised system of preferences, an international system that gives special treatment to exports from industrialising nations.

America made good on that threat last week, withdrawing GSP benefits to South Korea, as well as Hong Kong, Taiwan and Singapore.

The European Economic Community earlier suspended those benefits over a dispute on copyright protection. Austria also is considering removing Korea from its preference list, and Canada has slapped a preliminary 36 per cent tariff on Hyundai cars and is gathering evidence on charges of dumping.

South Korea sent a high-ranking trade delegation to the United States Jan. 2 to plead for a cease-fire in trade talks until after the national assembly elections. But the strategy that worked during December's presidential election failed this time, and the South Koreans returned home with a stern warning.

"The US move to have South Korea graduated from the GSP beneficiaries is more of a political gesture than an economic sanction," said Kang Sung-Gon, a trade and industry ministry official. He said the US trade and budget deficits and pressure from American industry forced the move.

SHIPPING MOVEMENT

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUWAIKH PORT AS ON 2.2.88			
B.No.	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
6	Driver	M. Bahar	2433881
9	Tug Salvania	Gulf Star	4845501
11	Barge Maryam	Gulf Star	4845501
12	Wave Crest	Algh Barber	4843988
12	Carmen Carina	M. Bahar	2433881
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUWAIKH PORT			
ETA	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
1/2	Alshuwaikh	Livestock	2434177
1/2	Kara Koram	Trans Com	2436920
2/2	Anwar Sg	Sager Shahin	2432692
2/2	Global Star	Alqutub	4747815
2/2	Almujeeb	Algh Barber	4843988
SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUAIBA PORT			
B. No	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
2	Saint Constantinos	Al Qutub	4747815
8	Uco XVII	Steamco	2439973
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUAIBA PORT			
ETA	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
1/2	Caly	M. Bahar	2433881
6/2	Grace Liberty	Al Kamal	2425437
8/2	Abu Basma	Roger	2423642
8/2	Sunset	Roger	2423642
10/2	YS Prosperity	Al Rashed	2422026
11/2	Rhein Express	M. Bahar	2433881
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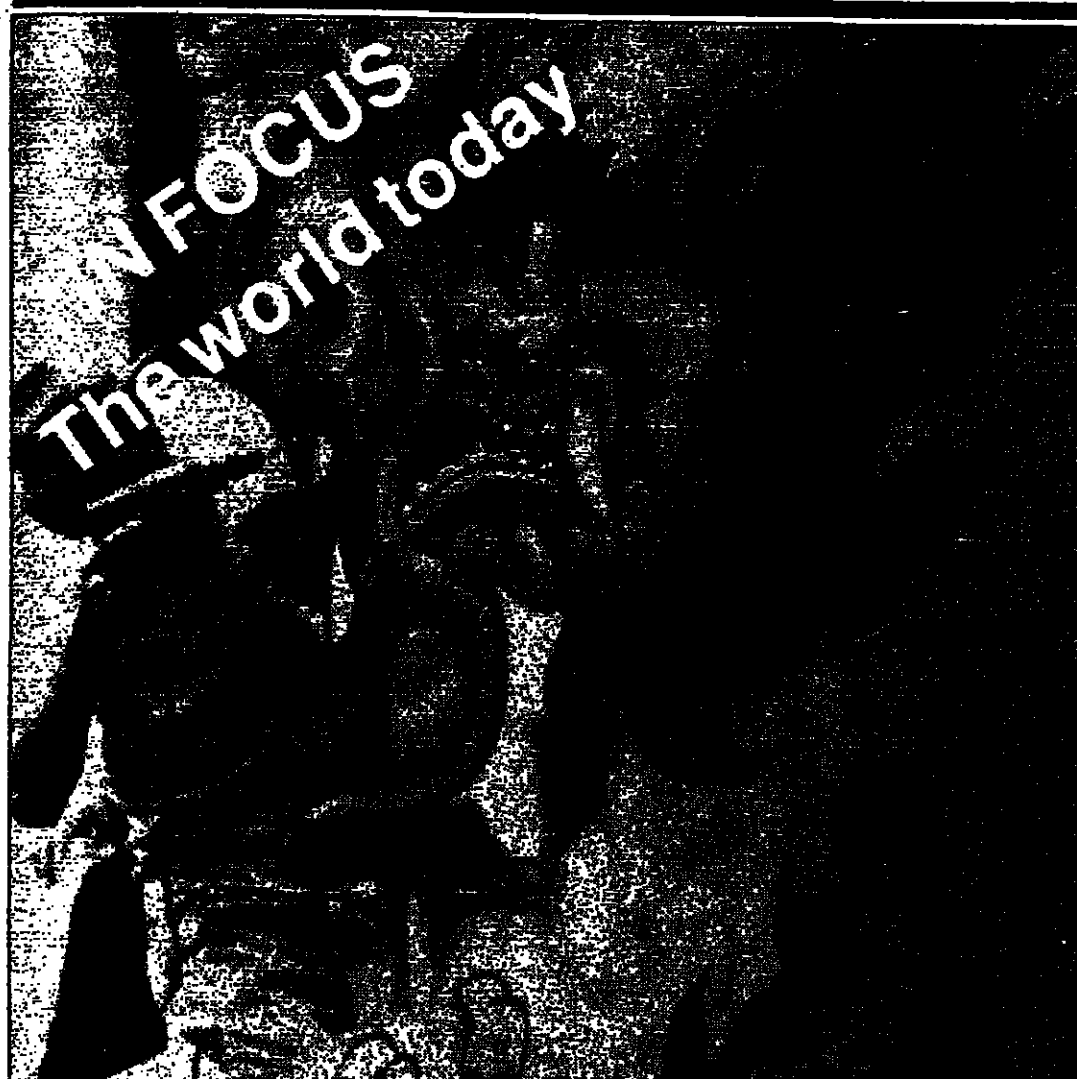


Sony re-opens its newly-designed showroom

After a month of renovation, the Sony Showroom re-opened its doors to the public last January 31, 1988. Considered as the First Futuristic Showroom in the Middle East, the newly-designed showroom showcases a complete array of Sony electronic appliances ranging from the pocket transistor radio to the world's largest color television. The newly designed showroom is aimed at bringing closer Sony product lines to the general public because it allows its customers to touch and see for themselves the innovative technologies built-in with every Sony product displayed at the showroom. Supplying Store Co., the sole agent of Sony in Kuwait believes that offering such kind of atmosphere in the showroom will pave the way in strengthening further the second-to-none position of Sony in the market. The above photo shows Mr. Abdulla Omar Al Yagout, Partner & General Manager of Supplying Store Co. WLL, cutting the ceremonial ribbon during the inauguration of the newly designed showroom as SSC staff and well-wishers look on.



The management and staff of Madco Gulf (a member of the Madco Group) held their annual luncheon party recently. They are seen with the founding member and managing partner of Madco Group, Burhan S. Beidas. The Madco Group is an advertising and marketing network in the Middle East, with offices in Kuwait, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon and the United States. During 1987 the Group registered a healthy growth in billings.



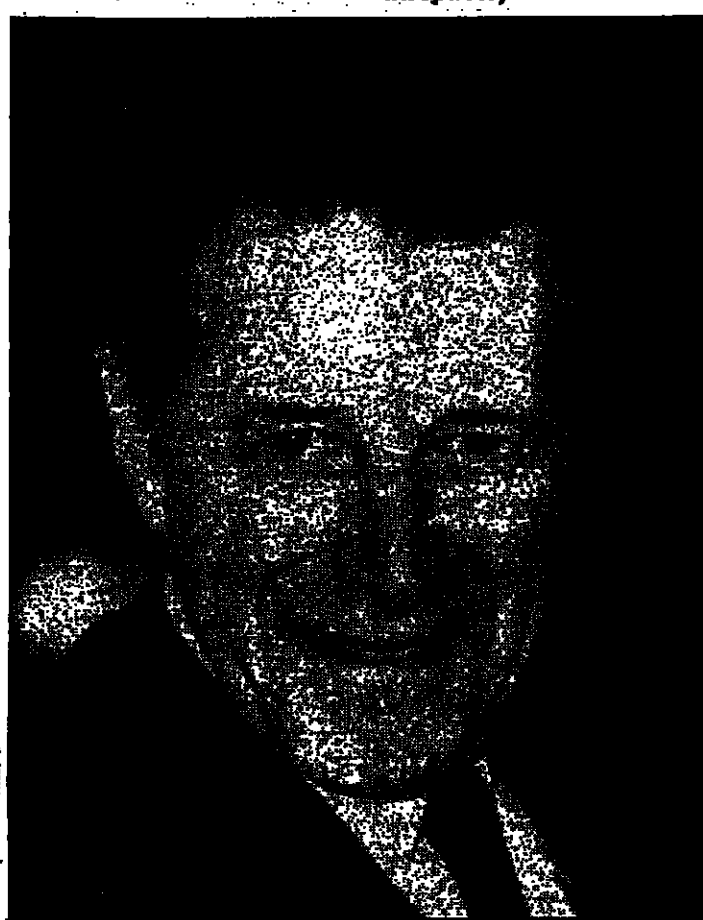
WEARING a Rajasthani turban, Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi tries his luck at playing a traditional folk instrument on Monday during a meeting with the performers who participated in the Republic Day parade. (Reuter wirephoto)



ARMED Israeli soldiers wearing rain suits open shops yesterday afternoon in Central Ramallah. Usually, during the past week, when soldiers have forced open shops in Ramallah the owners have been on hand to close up after the troops left the area. Yesterday, however, there were no shopkeepers on hand so stores were left open. (Reuter wirephoto)



RECENT file photo of Gajaj (king) Sau Lagatmaro, head of the Molmahao clan on the tiny Fiji island of Rotuma. The clan recently claimed Rotuma had seceded from Fiji and Fijian soldiers have been sent to restore order. (Reuter wirephoto)



FORMER US Defence Secretary Casper Weinberger will receive an honorary knighthood from Britain's Queen Elizabeth in appreciation of his contribution to Anglo-American defence cooperation, the Foreign Office said on Monday. Weinberger is seen in an August 1986 file photo. (Reuter wirephoto)



LEFTIST rebels buy snacks from a girl in this small mountain village close to the Honduran border. The guerrillas say 1988 will be a year of 'decisive battles' against the US-backed government but they are confident conditions favour them. (Reuter wirephoto)



ALEXANDER TSUKANOV of the Soviet Union Silver Clowns, kisses the hand of Princess Stephanie during the awards ceremony of the International Circus festival in Monte Carlo last night. Pictured left, a marvellous white tiger jumps through a burning ring at an international circus programme in Munich Monday night. The tiger is one of 13 white tigers which came from the US last week to be shown for the first time in Europe. (Reuter wirephoto)



FINNISH President Mauno Koivisto outpolled his opponents on Monday in Finland's presidential election but fell short of an outright victory by failing to gain 50 per cent of the vote. With 92 per cent of the votes counted, Social Democrat Koivisto had polled 48.1 per cent. (Reuter wirephoto)



FRENCH Prime Minister Jacques Chirac and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak chat as they leave the prime minister's residence where they held talks yesterday. (Reuter wirephoto)



ENZO FERRARI, of the famous car manufacturer (right, with dark glasses) is applauded by officials from Modena University after receiving an Honoris Causa degree in physics during a ceremony in Modena, Italy on Monday. (Reuter wirephoto)



ARGENTINE President Raul Alfonsin chats with Isabelita Peron, widow of Argentine leader Juan Peron, during a reception last night at Madrid's El Prado Palace. Alfonsin returned to Argentina yesterday after a three-day visit. (Reuter wirephoto)

ARAB TIMES Classifieds

MARKET PLACE

ACCOMMODATION Available

SALMIYA, behind Mercedes Showroom. One room in a 2 bedroom flat partly furnished with kitchen facilities for 2 bachelors/ladies or a couple. Tele. 5726275. (AT5-40792-2)

KUWAIT City, near the Sheraton Hotel, Behbehani Compound. Sharing accommodation for Europeans. Tele. Mr. Adrian, 2455397, res. (AT5-40814-3)

RASSALMIYA, accommodation in a flat for a couple or an elderly lady to share with an Indian family. Bus routes, 14, 19, 34, 109, 505. Tele. 2451234. (AT5-40819-2)

KUWAIT City, Sharq. Sharing accommodation with kitchen and tele. facilities for one Indian Muslim bachelor (non-smoker). Rent KD35 with water and electricity. Tele. 2445561, 6-10 pm. (AT4-40807-3)

KUWAIT City, near the Meridian, furnished accommodation with all housing facilities for a Western or Filipino family or ladies only. Tele. Mahmoud Abd Rabou, 2442308/9, 2429490/1, 7.30 am - 1.30 pm, 4.30 - 6.30 pm. (AT5-40823-3)

FOR RENT

Villas, 1/2 villas, flats, apartments, stores, etc., in all areas of Kuwait.
Messilah Beach Real Estate
Tele. 2401858
2408510

FARWANIYA, behind the Holiday Inn. Single bedroom in a 2-bedroom flat for 2 working ladies or a family. Tele. Kanthi, 2424761, 8 am - 12.30, 4-7.30 pm. (AT5-40825-3)

For Rent

MISHRIF, Deluxe, CAC carpeted single storey villa, comprising 4 bedrooms, living area, dining room, 3 bathrooms, fitted large kitchen, car park and a beautiful garden. Rent KD 650. Tele. 5391720, 5382783, 1-8 pm. (AT1-40727-6)

RUMATHIYA, two big bedrooms with balconies and built-in cupboards, sitting room, kitchen and English bathroom on 1st floor of a villa. Rent KD 130. Tele. Arshad, 5330880, 9 am - 9 pm. (AT5-40828-3)

FOR SALE

Furniture

BEDROOM set, sofa set, writing table, curtains, etc. for sale. Tele. 2444033, 2625497. (AT5-40793-2)

Miscellaneous

SOME household items for sale. Tele. 4718040, 5-9 pm. (AT5-40799-2)

COMPUTER STUDIES

Programming
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Word Processing
Polyglot Institute
Tel: 2414820-2431469

GIBSONAC, National dryer, mattress, carpet, dining table with 3 chairs, 2 wooden beds, side-table, baby swing, baby pram at throw-away prices. Tele. Kanda, 5638324, 2-4 pm, 7-10 pm. (AT4-40800-3)

NATIONAL portable video camera, model VWP-200N with recorder NV-100, charger NV-811, battery and 2000W light, in excellent condition. KD 350 ono. Tele. Mr. Jacob, 2517968 ext. 25, 7 am - 2 pm. (AT5-40798-3)

3 BEDROOM sets, dining and sitting room set, fridge, dishwasher, auto washing machine, curtains, house plants, carpets, all for KD 900 or each item separately. Tele. Mr. Khan, 3711851. (AT4-40808-2)

MODERN Roland Polyphonic synthesizer, master piece 32 preset solo voices, plus other 32 programmable sounds, etc. KD 295. Tele. 5754853, after 5 pm. (AT5-40818-3)

FEW household items for sale. Tele. Jennifer, 2447447, 8 am - 12.30 pm, 5.30 - 7.30 pm. (AT3-40782-2)

DINING table with 6 chairs, washing machine, freezer and bedroom furniture for sale. Tele. Ibrahim, 3950722 ext. 259, 9 am - 2.30 pm. (AT4-40792-3)

HOUSEHOLD furniture and electrical appliances including 4+1 suite, wall units, bedroom suites, children and kitchen items for sale. Tele. Chris Miller, 5519201/2/3/4, apartment 53, 8 am - 9.30 pm. (AT5-40816-3)

WESTINGHOUSE fridge (non-frost), KD 120. Two Hitachi AC's each KD 70, Ariston oven, KD 30, Sony 20" TV, KD 85, with antenna, rotor and wire. Tele. 4817784, 10 am - 12 noon, 4.30 - 6.30 pm. (AT5-EAR-TM-2)

Cars

MITSUBISHI Galant (GLS), 1984, manual, 5 gears, power steering, 106000 kms, insured up to Jan '89, in excellent condition. One owner. KD 825, ono. Tele. Singh, 4837367, mornings, 4346034, evenings. (AT5-40813-3)

SUBARU 1.8 GL, 4 wheel drive, station wagon, model 1985, automatic, 71000 kms, red colour, in excellent condition. Best offer over KD 1450, cash. Tele. Stanley, 4837623, 8 am - 1 pm 4-7 pm. (AT3-40787-3)

OLDSMOBILE Omega, 1981, in excellent condition. Tele. Jim, 3849607. (AT2-40763-3)

DODGE 1981, fully automatic and Nissan Stanza 1984, fully automatic, white. Both cars are in very good condition. KD 600 and 725 respectively. Tele. 4887482, 9.30 am - 8 pm. (AT4-40805-3)

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* Part Villas
* Flats * Offices
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Tel: 2408582, 2408593

DE LOREAN 82, 2 seater sports, stainless steel body, red, automatic, 55000 kms. In very good condition. Best offer. Tele. 2511296, after 6 pm (Thursday after 1 pm). (AT4-40796-3)

HONDA Accord, 83 model, two doors, white, in good condition. KD 800, (fixed price). Tele. Mr. Bassam, 5713190. (AT5-40812-3)

MITSUBISHI Colt, 1982 model, in excellent condition. Tele. 5331541 after 3 pm. (AT3-40780-3)

ISUZU Gemini, model 1986, three doors, manual, 5 gears, 42000 kms, power steering, red colour, in excellent condition. Best offer over KD 1150. Tele. Stanley, 4837623, 8 am - 1 pm, 4-7 pm. (AT3-40787-3)

SITUATIONS

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MAID required, full-time. Tele. Mr. Alvo 2480550. (AT3-40778-3)

MAID required for a family from 12 noon - 8.30 pm, part-time or full time, near the Sabah Hospital. Salary KD 40 per month. Tele. 4873370, after 8.30 pm. (AT5-40781-2)

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DRIVER required. Indian or Pakistani, for a Kuwaiti family. Must have experience in Kuwait and be able to speak Arabic and English. Must have a transferable visa. Tele. 2413102. (AT5-40811-2)

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HOUSEMAID, Sri Lankan, seeks job preferably with an European family. Tele. 2636333, 8 am - 12 noon. (AT4-40793-2)

ELECTRICIAN, with 8 years experience in Kuwait, seeks job, morning shift only. Tele. Mohammed, 4731791, 3-6.30 pm. (AT5-40821-3)

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PASSPORT No. 495687 in the name of Shabbir Ahmed Ali, Indian. Tele. 4816459, 2441170. (AT4-40806-2)

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REQUIRED from Abbasiya at 12 noon to Salwa English School, for a lady to accompany infant back to Abbasiya. Tele. 4356316. (AT3-40783-3)

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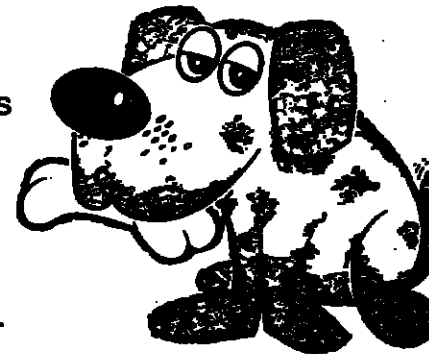
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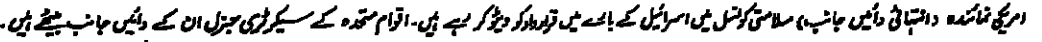
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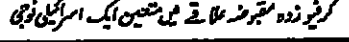
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 ۱۹۷۱ء میں اس کی پیش کی تھو کہ سب سے پہلے
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رشتہ داروں کی مدد سے گھر میں داخل ہو کر جھڑکیا۔ لاش

پاکستان میں ظاہر شاہ کی حمایت میں ہزاروں افغان مجاہد

۳۲ سالہ بیوہ کی دل اور ان کے ایک ۵۶ سالہ مسن کتس کو موت کی باتوں نہ دینے کے جرم میں گرفتار کر لیا گیا ہے۔

نجیب حکومت ختم شاہ سے مذاکرات کر کے بھارت کی تجویز

عراقی وزیر خارجہ طارق عزیز نے اسکو بھیجے ہوئے سوویت رہنماؤں سے اہم بات چیت کریں گے

بغداد۔ ۲۲ فروری (رائٹر) عراق نے سویت یونین پر زور دیا ہے کہ وہ جنگ بندی کیلئے سلاحتی کو نسل کی

جملہ سویت نائبین پر تلخ جہلیاؤں کو تسلیم کرنا کا
استقبال کرے۔ عراقی وزیر خارجہ عزیز نے

جلیجلی کے قیام کرپ اور افغان حکومت کی کرپلی
 حمایت کریں۔ بھارت کے خدوچہ امور کے
 وزیر مملکت عتد محمد دوم روانہ ہونے والے ہیں
 مانی دوسرے مسندہ

کے فائلر نے اپنے دواڑے میں کھڑے رہ کر امن کا اظہار کیا
میں بے کر سلاحتی کونسل کے مستقل رکن دو ست ملک کی
قیادت میں ہر امن کی جنگی کارروائیوں بند کرانے کی ایک
ختہ موقف اظہار کر کے دو ست اور ان کے وزیر خارجہ

ایک فرانسیسی شہر کے جنگ کرکٹ

غیر سرکاری تنظیمیں

ماسکو - ۲۴ فروری (ایپ) سوویت یونین کی کمیونسٹ پارٹی نے ایک قرارداد منظور کی ہے جس کے تحت اس پارٹی کے تمام اراکین کو غیر سرکاری تنظیموں میں شمولیت اختیار کرنے کی ترغیب دی جائے گی۔

شمالی کوریائی سرحد پر اسلحہ سے لدی
باقی دوسرے صفحہ پر

ہیں۔ ہارواوے ایک مضمون میں جو لکھناؤں کے ایک گروپ کی غیر سرکاری کانفرنس کے بعد شائع ہوا ہے ان آزاد گروپوں پر سخت تنقید کی گئی ہے جن کی تعداد ہارواوے کے مطابق کم از کم ایک سو ہے۔

ہنگ کانگد ۲۲ فروری (رائٹ) ہنگ کانگ کے ایک انگریزی اخبار نے خبر دی ہے کہ چین سے آنے والی طر کی ایک ٹرین میں شامل کوریہ کی سرحد کے قریب دست و دعا کے باوجود اس کے نتیجے میں ۲۰ افراد ہلاک اور

جاول

ہاتھ بوجھا کر کمر سے لٹکا دیا۔ وہ اس کی سرپرست کی موبائل پر ایک ویڈیو بھیج دی۔

کی ہے اور کہا کہ اگر اسپتال میں کسی کو آتش فشاں نہیں لانی تھی۔

بچکے، کے مطابق انتظامیات میں ہارنے والے امیدواروں کے حاحیل کی طرف سے مرکوز ہیں، احتجاجی مظاہروں کا آج

خوردنی مصنوعات
معروف نام سے

خبریں یہ تھیں کہ قادیان کے حکمرانوں نے شہر کی گلیوں پر پتھر پھینک دیے۔

جیسے جیسے چاول کی
دیے دیے چاول فوڈ
ترقی کی اس راہ چاؤ

کانگنی پروانچر اس وقت جیلوں کے گاہر ہو چکی۔ ایسی لائق کے دس ہزار ارکان کے ذریعہ سینیٹر کو گریڈ کا کام ہوتا ہے اور کانگنی اس وقت تک کام شروع نہیں کر سکتے جب تک پروانچر سنبھل کر کے کام کی

پیشہ شامل ہو کر

تھوہے والی کا کنووی کی ایک سالہ بڑال کے بعد پہلی

کونسل برائے کراچی
فون: 544124

SPORTS

Redskins rout Denver Broncos

SAN DIEGO, California, Feb. 2, (AP): Super Bowl winners don't repeat. So, after the Washington Redskins lost to New York in the NFC title game a year ago, Charles Mann was rooting for the Giants in the Super Bowl. That way, the Redskins would have a chance this year.

Mann's double wish came true on Sunday when the Redskins went on a record-breaking binge that included 35 second-quarter points to rout the Denver Broncos, becoming the fourth straight NFC team to capture a lopsided National Football League Championship.

That led Redskins coach Joe Gibbs to face the inevitable questions yesterday about the difficulty of repeating as NFL champion. No team this decade has won two straight Super Bowls.

Gibbs' response: "I just want to get through our division first."

The last two Super Bowl winners, the Giants and Redskins, came from the NFC east, and Gibbs said he believes it's the toughest division in football.

"I thought that if any team around could repeat it was the Giants because they were solid at every position," he said of last year's champions, who fell victim to a terrible strike team, injuries and post-Super Bowl malaise, finishing last in the division with a 6-9 record.

That gives the giants an easy last-place schedule next season.

They get to play Detroit twice and Kansas City, while the Redskins are facing the likes of Chicago and Cleveland.

Roaring

"I think the Giants are mad about what happened this year and will come roaring back," Gibbs said. "I think Philadelphia is coming on, and so are the Cardinals."

The NFC has won the last four Super Bowls by a composite score of 165-56 with 14 of those 56 points coming on fourth-quarter touchdowns as the NFC team was cruising with a big lead. In fact, the fewest points by any NFC Super Bowl team over that period was the 38 scored by San Francisco in its 38-16 victory over Miami in 1985.

Gibbs refused to acknowledge conference domination.

"Each of those games are totally separate," he said. "I don't see it as AFC-NFC. Each of those teams got hot for a day. What takes over and contributes to a lopsided game is difficult to understand."

Outmuscle

Offensive tackle Mark May said after Sunday's game the Redskins were able to outmuscle the Broncos — as the Giants did — because they are used to physical games within the division.

Gibbs said the same thing yesterday.

"When you come out of our division, it's a physical division. Every team in there is a physical

football team," he said. "When you play Philadelphia, they are knocking you around. The Giants beat you up and the Cardinals and Dallas can hurt you."

That, of course, is one hurdle for Washington.

There also is expected to be more contention for the quarter-back spot between 26-year-old Jay Schroeder, the incumbent entering this season, and 32-year-old Doug Williams, who threw for a record 340 yards and four touchdowns to be named the game's most valuable player. The 340 yards, 306 of them in the first half, was one of 10 Super Bowl records set by the Redskins. The four TD's tied a Super Bowl mark.

Gibbs said he believed there was a lot to be said for intrateam competition, the same kind he will have at running back with George Rogers, Kelvin Bryant and Timmy Smith. Smith, a surprise starter in Rogers' place, set another record with 204 yards rushing, just a half a vote for MVP to Williams' 10 1/2.

Smith's rushing and Williams' passing contributed to yet another record — 602 total yards offense, which also included 193 yards receiving by Ricky Sanders, another record by another non-MVP.

"I don't think we're a dominant team," Gibbs said. "It's so fleeting in the NFL today. In Washington, everyone wants you to win every game or they get on you."



The Redskins' Gary Clark (84) and Eric Yarber (80) celebrate after Clark scored a 2nd quarter touchdown on Sunday in San Diego. (Reuter wirephoto)

11 POINTS FROM FREE THROWS SINK PISTONS Cleveland surge ahead in closing minutes

RICHFIELD, Ohio, Feb. 2, (AP): Ron Harper scored 23 points and the Cleveland Cavaliers made their last 11 points from the free throw line to beat the Detroit Pistons 94-83 last night.

The victory was the Cavaliers' fourth straight, their longest winning streak of the NBA season, and put them over .500 for the first time since they won their first game this year. Cleveland's 22-21 record is its best this late in the season in 10 years.

Cleveland went ahead for good 31-30 on Dell Curry's shot with 8:10 to go in the second quarter. Mark Price scored 20 points, 10 in the fourth quarter, and John Williams also had 20 for the Cavaliers. Price made six of Cleveland's 11 free throws in the closing minutes.

Adrian Dantley led Detroit with 20 points and Rick Mahorn scored 15 but Isiah Thomas was held to nine.

Pacers 90, Warriors 88

In Indianapolis, Indiana blew a 16-point third-period lead but held on to beat Golden State when Vern Fleming made two free throws with six seconds left.

With the game tied 88-88, Indiana's Chuck Person missed a shot and the Warriors' Ralph Sampson rebounded but threw the ball away. Fleming came up

with it and worked the clock to six seconds before being fouled on a drive by Winston Garland, who led Golden State with 25 points.

Jazz 105, Supersonics 100

In Salt Lake City, Thurl Bailey scored 32 points and Karl Malone added 25 to lead Utah. The Jazz trailed 52-49 at halftime but Bailey and John Stockton keyed a 17-6 run that gave Utah a 66-58 lead with 6:58 left in the third quarter.

Utah never trailed after that but Seattle tied the score 88-88 with 6:54 left in the game on a 3-point shot by Dale Ellis, who finished with 40. Utah then switched to a trapping defense, forcing Seattle out of its offense, and outscored the Sonics 7-2 over the next three minutes.

Nets 108, Mavericks 103

In Dallas, Buck Williams scored 23 points and New Jersey rallied from an 11-point deficit in the third quarter to snap a 26-game road losing streak dating back to last season.

New Jersey, which lost its first 18 road games this season and hadn't won away from home since March 18, 1987, at Detroit, got a triple-double performance from guard John Bagley who had 19 points 10 assists and 10 rebounds. Mark Aguirre led

Dallas with 32 points.

The Mavericks, who lead second-place Denver by four games in the Midwest division and whose 28-13 record is the best in franchise history, had won 10 of their previous 12 games and 15 of 17 at home.

Dallas took an 11-point lead in the third quarter when Aguirre hit six straight shots. But the Nets outscored the Mavericks 13-1 over the next 3:36.

Kings 97, Bulls 95

In Sacramento, California, Chicago's Michael Jordan scored 37 points but Sacramento's Lasalle Thompson blocked his layup with two seconds left, preserving the Kings' 97-95 victory and snapping Chicago's three-game winning streak.

Reggie Theus led Sacramento with 28 points, including a shot with eight seconds left that broke a 95-95 tie. Mike McGee added 15 points, while Thompson had a game-high 13 rebounds.

After Theus' tie-breaking shot, Jordan attempted to knot the score by driving down the left lane, but had his shot blocked by Thompson. Sacramento's center, Jordan scored 14 of Chicago's 18 points during the final six minutes.

Rookie Kenny Smith had 11 of the Kings 24 points. Chicago only had 10 for the game.

Jansher ready to quit squash for tennis

ANTWERP, Belgium, Feb. 2, (Reuter): World champion Jansher Khan is ready to quit squash and take up tennis — if his father tells him to do so.

But he knows that if he cuts short his blossoming squash career he could provoke serious tension back home in Pakistan.

"After next year's world championships, I must talk to my father about it because he's the one who decides," said 18-year-old Jansher. "But I'm sure my brother won't like it. He says — why should you quit if you're number one?"

Dilemma

For Jansher, it could be quite a dilemma. His father, a former national tennis champion, has helped him become the current national junior tennis champion. His brother Mohibullah is his squash mentor and coach.

Jansher, however, is prepared to wait and see how events unfold and in the meantime make the most of his tennis experience which he says is very useful on the squash court, particularly as many players serve high balls when they face him.

"That doesn't bother me, because of my tennis experience," he said. "My shoulders and arms are accustomed to dealing with such shots."

Jansher said he could earn much more by playing tennis, but added: "I can make a good living out of squash. If you're number one or two and you play a lot of finals, you're okay."

Mohibullah, ranked second in the world in 1976, has always been Jansher's coach and it was under his guidance that Jansher first made his mark by winning the world junior championship.

Success

His success led to a meteoric rise. Barely 12 months later, he occupied the world number one spot after crushing all opposition, including five-time world champion and compatriot Jahangir Khan. Jahangir had dominated the world game for five years.

The sudden wave of success and media attention did not bother Jansher. "But," he said, "I have the impression that everyone now tries much harder to beat me."

His tremendous court coverage, combined with a soft, delicate ball touch, has become his trademark. "My strongest point is my physical condition, and I don't have any weak points any more," he said.

It is a view which attracts contradictory opinions. "I think Jahangir is a lot stronger. But



Jansher: tension

Jansher beats everybody ... said 1986 world champion Ross Norman of New Zealand.

"Jansher plays more defensively than Jahangir, but he can retrieve virtually every shot," countered Australian Tristan Narcurrow, ranked number nine in the world.

Consecutive

Apart from the world title, Jansher won nine grand prix tournaments last year, and beat 24-year-old Jahangir on seven

consecutive occasions.

"Jahangir will perhaps beat me in the future, but certainly not regularly any more," Jansher said. "We aren't good friends and I don't think we'll ever be."

Born in Beshawar, northern Pakistan, Jansher has made London his base but travels home whenever possible.

He admitted he did not have any interests outside squash. "I like watching Indian movies and listen to Pakistani and Indian music. But that's about it. I just don't have much spare time."

A Muslim, Jansher prays five times a day and follows a lifestyle devoid of many of the trappings of other leading sportsmen.

Means

"To be a Muslim also means no alcohol, no pork and no girls," he said. "Of course, in the future, I can have a wife."

He said the secret of his success was simple — hard work, plenty of sleep and an early start every day. In Jansher's case that means rising at 5:30 in the morning and practising for at least five hours each day.

"I always knew I could be the number one at such a young age because my brother said I could do it, and I could remain at the top for at least another 10 years," he said.



Zola Budd

ing of Hart and other concerned groups for February 10 to plan details of a protest campaign. But we're hoping that campaign won't even be necessary."

Jerry Fletcher, executive director of the cross-country championships, said "usual" security precautions would be taken.

He would not comment on any repercussions for the games.

"We simply welcome a strong British team here in March and are pleased to see it come with Budd or anyone else," he said.

Masked

He said Budd was part of the "new, soft face" of South African sport that masked the reality of life in the republic.

Minto said demonstrators would be ready if Budd arrived. "We have called a special meet-

World's richest road race set for Bali

JAKARTA, Feb. 2, (Reuter): More than a million dollars in prize money and bonuses will be on offer at the Bali 10-km road race on April 3, the sponsor of the event said today.

Timber Tycoon Bob Hasan said the men's and women's record holders in the 10-km road race, American Marc Nenow and Liz McColgan, formerly Liz Lynch, of Britain, are confirmed for what he is calling the world's richest road race.

Zola Budd of Britain and her American arch-rival Mary Decker Slaney are considering invitations, said Hasan, who will personally shell out \$500,000 each to the main or woman who set records in the race.

Budd is scheduled to run in the world cross-country championships in New Zealand a week before the Bali race, and Slaney has been nursing an injury.

On top of the bonus money, \$145,000 in cash prizes will go to the top 10 in the men's and women's events.

Hasan, who is also chairman of the Indonesian Athletic Association, said other confirmed participants include Italy's Francesco Panetta, bronze medalist in 10,000 metres at the 1987 world championships, and John Treacy of Ireland, twice world cross country champion and the marathon silver medalist at the 1984 Olympics.

In the women's division, McColgan will have to stage off a challenge from France's Annette Sargent, winner of the 1987 world cross country title.

Kiwis cannot stop Budd visit

WELLINGTON, Feb. 2, (Reuter): The New Zealand government said today it could not stop South African-born runner Zola Budd from entering the country because she had a British passport, but she would not be welcome.

Budd will represent Britain at the World Cross Country Championships in Auckland on March 26. Peter Tapsell, the minister of recreation and sport, said in a statement her presence was not acceptable but she could not be turned away.

Anti-apartheid groups have also said Budd would not be welcomed and warned there could be demonstrations, while officials in Auckland are worried her presence could lead to boycotts of the Commonwealth Games there in 1990.

Eligible

Tapsell said: "The fact that under IAAF (International Amateur Athletic Federation) rules Budd is eligible to run in the race doesn't mean that the government considers it acceptable for her to take part."

"We don't want her here and believe the rules should be changed to exclude all holders of passports of convenience. I shall make that quite clear when the championships are held."

The minister, a Maori, said he could understand why many people regarded Budd as a South African.

"Budd's home is South Africa and while South Africans regarded her as one of their own. Her family is there, her trainer, even her doctor."

Tapsell said Budd had spent

eight months of the last year there with her family and then gone to England to qualify for the British team so she could run at Auckland.

But as she was a legitimate holder of a British passport, he had no power to prevent her coming to New Zealand.

British passport holders do not require a visa for stays of up to three months.

Tapsell said he believed IAAF rules should be changed to make it more difficult for South Africans, such as Budd to compete in international events on other passports.

The Commonwealth Games Federation had changed its rules and other international sporting federations should follow.

The chairman of the 1990 Commonwealth Games board, Sir Earl Richardson, said Budd's presence could endanger the games.

"The New Zealand Olympic and Commonwealth Games Federation has approached the English and suggested some inherent dangers in such a situation. We obviously prefer nothing that would cast the slightest doubt on the games."

John Minto, spokesman for the Hail All Racial Tours (HART) group, told reporters he did not think African countries would accept a Budd visit.

He said Budd was part of the "new, soft face" of South African sport that masked the reality of life in the republic.

Minto said demonstrators would be ready if Budd arrived. "We have called a special meet-

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Pace bowlers recalled

SYDNEY, Australia, Feb. 2, (AP): The Australian cricket selectors today recalled pace bowlers Simon Davis and Michael Whitney for Thursday's bicentennial one-day international against England at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

Davis and Whitney replace Craig McDermott and Merv Hughes from the team which played in the bicentennial Test, which finished in a draw today.

Hughes was dropped, while McDermott was not considered after suffering knee and ankle injuries during the Test.

Both Davis and Whitney played significant roles in Australia's World Series Cup victories over Sri Lanka and New Zealand last month.

Townsend dies

OSAKA, Japan, Feb. 2, (Reuter): American boxing trainer Eddie Townsend, who trained six world champions in Japan, died of cancer of the colon in hospital yesterday.

The 73-year-old Townsend, a former boxer from Hawaii, lost trained World Boxing Council straw-weight champion Hiroki Ioka.



James Butler (left) and Carl Lewis meet each other after 200 metres dash at Stuttgart's track and field indoor meeting on Saturday. Butler beat Lewis who clocked 0.15 seconds behind him. (Reuter wirephoto)

Nehemiah attempts to regain best form

NEW YORK, Feb. 2, (Reuter): Renaldo Nehemiah, world record holder in the 110-metre hurdles, said his goal is to make the US Olympic team as he attempts to regain his best form by chasing fellow-American Greg Foster around the indoor athletics circuit.

Nehemiah, who will battle his long-time rival in the 55-metre hurdles at the Millrose games in New York this week, told a news conference yesterday that "the Olympics are on my mind."

Duel

In their first duel of the year in Los Angeles last month, Nehemiah finished second behind Foster. But Nehemiah said he feels he is closing the gap between himself and the world champion Foster.

"He knows I'm breathing down his neck. There is a lot of pressure on Gregg. He can only go down," said Nehemiah.

"I'm not accustomed to losing. It has made me eager to reconfirm my stake as number one," said Nehemiah, who has lost to Foster four times in 15 career indoor meetings.

Hopefuls

A victory over Foster at the Millrose games would be the first step for the 27-year-old Nehemiah toward achieving his goal of qualifying for the Seoul Olympics.

"If I mimic the old Nehemiah, there is no question of me making

the team," he said.

Nehemiah was just one of many Olympic hopefuls who missed the Moscow games because of the US-led boycott.

He left the track in 1982 and played professional football with the San Francisco 49ers for four years which caused him to miss the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics.

Nehemiah's first comeback attempt was disrupted by surgery to repair a damaged achilles a year ago, but he remains hopeful of a return to his former world record-setting form.

"If I can come back again and be the best, that would surpass even my wildest expectations."

Timman and Portisch qualify for quarterfinals

SAINT JOHN, New Brunswick, Feb. 2, (AP): Dutch grandmaster Jan Timman and Lajos Portisch of Hungary qualified yesterday for the quarterfinals in the Candidates Series for the World Chess Championship.

Timman, 36, the third ranked player in the world, scored a crushing victory over Valery Salov of the Soviet Union to win their six-game duel 3.5-2.5.

Coasted

Portisch, 53, coasted to a 3.5-2.5 victory with a draw against Soviet Rafael Vaganian.

Swiss grandmaster Viktor Korchnoi overhauled Johann Hjartarson of Iceland in only 26 moves to the their match at 3 points each.

Canada's Kevin Spraggett held a draw with Andrei Sokolov of the Soviet Union to end their match in a 3-3 tie.

The winner of the Candidates Series will challenge world champion Garry Kasparov of the Soviet Union for his title in 1990.

Join

Victors in the seven candidates matches in Saint John will join Soviet Anatoly Karpov, the second ranked player in the world, in a final series to decide Kasparov's challenger.

Nigel Short and Jonathan Speelman of England and Soviet grandmaster Artur Yusupov won their contests on Saturday and are in the quarterfinals.

The drawn K.O. :hnoi-Hjartarson now will go into two-game matches to be played tomorrow and Friday.

If they remain drawn after those games, the two pairs will engage on Saturday in sudden death tie-breakers played at increasing speeds.

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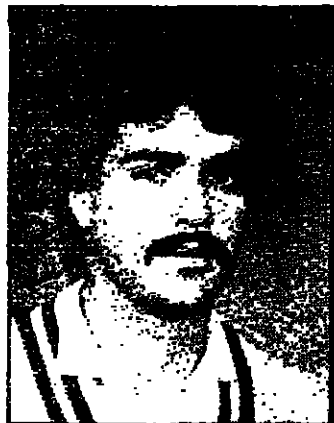
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SPORTS

Bright Stars
trounce NBK

Aslam: unbeaten 148
BRIGHT Stars cricket club trounced NBK by 107 runs in a KCL Trophy match played at the Salem Al Sabah ground. Bright Stars won the toss and elected to bat first and put on a huge total of 246 for 5 wickets in their allotted 30 overs.

Aslam had a fine knock of unbeaten 148 runs. He hit mighty six and 22 fours in a magnificent display of powerful hitting.

Ajmal 34, Khalid 22, with a six and 3 fours. Nadeem not out on a well compiled 39 runs which included 5 fours.

Ashraf and Sohail claimed each one wicket.

NBK falling a mammoth total had no answer to Bright Stars bowlers and could manage only 139 runs for 9 wickets in the allotted 30 overs.

Ali Rizvi 27, Ashraf 32 and Sohail 24 not out were the only batsmen who could get into double figures.

Ahmed 3 for 19 runs, Khalid 2 for 18, M. Ali one for 22, were wicket takers, while Nadeem, Aslam, Aroon, Nawab, and Ilyas all bowled well and economically and did not allow any batsmen to score freely.

Siddiqui
defeat Kokan

SIDDIQUI defeated Kokan by 9 wickets in the Al Mulla Mitsubishi Friday League match in Ahmadi.

Batting first Kokan scored 131 for 8 in 30 overs. Zakariya 50 and Bader 25 were the highest scorers. Amjad and Mukesh both took 3 wickets each for Siddiqui.

In reply Siddiqui got the required runs through unbeaten knocks from Zafar 51 and Amjad with a solid 69 inclusive of 2 sixes. Mukesh was the only batsman dismissed caught by Bader off Zakariya for 10.

In another match of the same league, Capri prevailed over Gulf Bank winning by 7 wickets. Gulf Bank being dismissed for a paltry 119. Main scorers were Alex 27 and Perwaiz 20.

Capri replied strongly with Zia not out on a breezy 38 with 2 straight sixes and Bitoo making the next best score of 37 not out. Useful contributions also came from Adnan 25 and Tousef 19.

Maroons
move into
semifinals

MAROONS moved into the semifinals of the second annual YRC football tournament with a lucky win over a modest Starlite team in the tie breaker.

The troubled YRC football tournament resumed again after a break, in which quarter finalist D'Asisi were suspended from the tournament for man-handling the referee.

They are now further suspended for the SUFA tournament also for disturbing the progress of the tournament. This game was a moderate affair with either teams having no punch in them. Trio Correa brothers excelled with the eldest linkman and Tony being the brain behind their victory.

It was Starlite who took the lead twice. They got their first goal when Gabriel headed the ball in from a pass from Manuel. Maroons equalised through a penalty taken by James when Elias handled the ball in the penalty area. Half time score remained 1-1.

After the breather in the 5th minute, Manuel put a through pass for Brian, who ran in the penalty area where Maroons keeper Francisco miscollected the ball and instead pulled Brian only to see the ball move into the open net and referee, Andrew right fully awarded the goal applying the advantage rule.

Down by a goal, Maroons piled a pressure and got the equaliser when James scored from a goal mouth melee. Thereafter, Peter Correa had a chance to increase the lead but Starlite keeper saved it well. Full time, the score remained 2-2.

In the dying minutes of the extra time, James had a chance to get a winner but keeper Joe bought off an acrobatic save. In the tie-breaker, Maroons romped have 10-9.

OPENING PARTNERSHIP HITS 162

Boon earns Australia a draw against England

SYDNEY, Feb 2. (Reuters): Opener David Boon capped a remarkable 12 months when he hit his highest test score of 184 not out to earn Australia a draw in the bicentennial Test today.

At stumps on the fifth and final day Australia had reached 328 for two wickets in their second innings, a lead of 117 over England who had hit 425 in their first innings.

Last January, Boon, vice captain for the first four Tests was forced to watch from the sidelines Australia's exciting victory over England in the fifth Test here after being axed.

Fought back
The Tasmanian fought back from that setback to be named Man-of-the-Match in Australia's victory in the one-day World Cup final, and last month International Cricketer of the Year for 1987/88.

Boon's 492-minute innings earned him another Man-of-the-Match award. But survival had been the keyword when he and Geoff Marsh resumed at 101 for no wicket this morning.

The pair notched up 162, the

highest Australian opening partnership against England in Sydney, before Marsh was caught by Bill Athey at short leg off spinner John Emburey for 56, his fourth Test half century.

Dean Jones helped Boon reach Australia's main target of 211, which meant England would have to bat again, before falling to a fine catch by Martyn Moxon in the gully off medium-pace David Capel. Jones scored 24.

Reached

Boon reached his first Test 150 in the final over before tea. After the interval, in concert with captain Allan Border, the stocky opener began opening up, finding the gaps with some powerful blows off the back foot on both sides of the wicket.

Whether Boon could reach his double century was the only question that kept a handful of spectators basking in the sun at the Sydney Cricket Ground rather than at nearby beaches.

But Border and John Emburey, England captain in place of influenza-stricken Mike Gatting, agreed to call off the match with 13 overs still to be

bowled, leaving Boon 16 runs short.

Border's unbeaten 48, in a stand of 110 with Boon, gave him a Test match aggregate of 7,255, taking him past England's Walter Hammond (7,249) to number six on the list of all-time Test run scorers.

Despite the build-up and the presence of many cricketing legends, the match to celebrate 200 years of white settlement in Australia was a disappointment, only coming alive on Sunday during Australia's dramatic first innings collapse.

Any chance of a positive result disappeared after 200 minutes were lost to bad light on the third and fourth days and the game will most probably be remembered for the performances of Boon and England opener Chris Broad.

Broad, Boon's predecessor as Cricketer of the Year, would normally have been in line for man of the match after his 139 in the first innings.

Reaction
But his petulant reaction following his dismissal by Steve

Waugh, when he knocked his leg stump out of the ground with his bat, ruined his chances.

Broad, fined £500 (\$900) for his misdemeanour, was also guilty of misbehaviour during the first Test of the recent controversial tour of Pakistan and many here believed he should have been sent home.

Australia's previous best opening partnership against England in Sydney was 126 by Arthur Morris and Sid Barnes in 1946/7.

Scoreboard
ENGLAND first innings 425
AUSTRALIA first innings 214
AUSTRALIA second innings (101 for no wicket over) 328
G. Marsh c Athey b Emburey 56
D. Boon not out 184
D. Jones c Moxon b Capel 24
A. Border not out 48
Extras (b-3 lb-7 nb-6) 16
Total (for two wickets) 328
Wicketfalls: 1-162 2-218
Did not bat: M. Veletta, S. Waugh, G. Dyer, P. Taylor, P. Sleep, A. Duckworth, C. McDermott.
Bowling: Foster 15-6-27-0, Capel 17-4-38-1, Dilley 13-1-48-0 (5ab), Hemmings 52-15-107-0, Emburey 38-5-98-1 (1ab).
Result — match drawn



Dean Jones (right) congratulates Australian opener David Boon after scoring 184 not out on the last day of the Bicentennial Test at Sydney yesterday. (Reuters wirephoto)

Punjab beat Brothers XI

THE Punjab Cricket Club (Fahadheel) beat the Brothers XI by 80 runs in a match played for the Capri Trophy tournament at the Fahadheel industrial area ground.

Batting first, Punjab amassed a fairly large score of 217 runs in just twenty-four overs for the loss of 8 wickets.

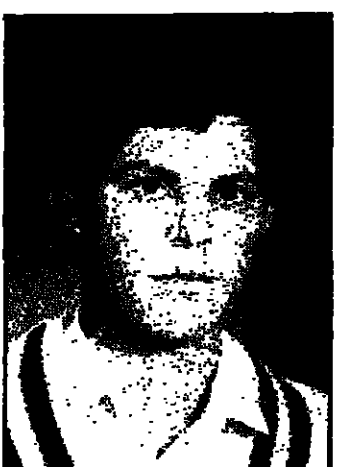
The highlight of the innings was a superb knock of 113 runs by Bader Munir. He hit three sixes and twelve fours in his ton. Jameel, Asghar and Maqsood were the other batsmen who entered double figures scoring 23, 16 and 13 runs respectively.

Jam-e-Ali was the main wicket-taker claiming four wickets giving away 37 runs in his fine spell.

Muster

In response, the Eleven Brothers were not very lucky and were able to muster only 137 runs losing all their wickets. Sakawat was the top scorer with 38 runs. Sarfaraz and Imtiaz scored 29 and 22. Maqsood bowled well to claim three wickets giving 25 runs. The last five wickets fell without an addition to the score.

In an earlier match the Punjab CC beat YMCA by a margin of 64 runs. Jameel and Amin bore



Maqsood: superb bowling
the laurels by hitting 63 and 41 runs respectively. They put on a total of 191 runs before being all out in the allotted 30 overs.

Scored

In reply YMCA scored only 127 losing all their wickets. Arif, Rafique and Bashir scored 34, 20 and 19 runs. Maqsood was the successful bowler once again who had five scalps to his credit in a devastating spell for a mere 28 runs. Bader Munir claimed three victims.

China beat
Greece in
volleyball
tournament

THE HAGUE, February 2. (Xinhua): China disposed of another strong opponent Greece 3-1 to win its second victory in the Olympic men's volleyball qualifying tournament yesterday in Amsterdam, Holland.

The Asian Games champions China, who rolled over Belgium 3-0 on Sunday, conceded the first set but rallied back fiercely to take the next three, winning the match 11-15, 15-8, 15-7, 15-11.

Holland, another favourite to win the berth for qualifying, also had a triumphant day when it thrashed untried Venezuela 3-0. The Dutch team now has collected four points from two victories.

In another action yesterday, Belgium bounced back from the loss to China to win over Cameroon 3-1.

Though each team has to play three more matches in the single Round Robin Tournery, many believe that China and Holland are most likely to enter the final.

World Cup skiing

Swiss return to top of the standings

SCHLADMING, Austria, Feb 2. (AP): After a half-season of freakish weather, rising stars and controversial disqualifications, everything is falling into place as the World Cup ski season takes a break before the start of the Winter Olympics.

The Swiss have returned to the top of the World Cup ski standings after the final set of races before resuming in March following the Olympic games.

Firmin Zurbriegen, Michela Figini and Vreni Schneider, all of whom were favourites to win Olympic medals before the season, have vaulted to the top of the standings.

Figini and Schneider, in fact,

are in a tie in the overall standings and lead two of the individual disciplines each.

Zurbriegen — after being in the shadow of Alberto Tomba, the Italian comet who took seven of the season's first 15 races — is now leading the men's standings and the downhill event.

Tomba recently lost his World Cup lead to Zurbriegen. He had a chance to regain it in a giant slalom race at Schlading but made mistakes and finished ninth. He still leads the slalom and giant slalom standings.

Zurbriegen also made errors at Schlading but managed to finish one spot ahead of Tomba and remain atop the rankings with 213 points. His downhill

victory here on Friday, his second of the season, put him as a solid favourite for the first Olympic ski event, the men's downhill on Feb 14 at Mt. Allan.

Zurbriegen, 23, who won the overall World Cup in 1984 and 1987, has won twice and come in second three times in the seven downhill races of the season so far. Teammate Daniel Mahrer has also taken two and world downhill champion Peter Mueller also of Switzerland still another.

In all, Swiss men have won five of the season's seven downhills. The Swiss women have won all six of theirs. Figini and Maria Walliser have split four with Chantal Bourmisen and Beatrice Gafner taking the others.

Kifco reach
another final

IN the semifinal of the Quaid-e-Azam cricket trophy played at the KCL ground, Sabah Al Salem, Kifco overwhelmed Prince Cricket Club by a margin of 141 runs.

Three enterprising half centuries from Nasir, Pervaz and S P Khan paved the way for an impressive total of 251 runs in 28 overs by Kifco who had opted to bat first. In the face of some mediocre opening attack Pervaz and Nasir had no difficulty in playing their instincts rightaway and the latter depending on intelligent wristy placements.

After the departure of Pervaz for 54 (two sixes and six fours) S P Khan took over the dominant role and playing aggressively took the score to 165. Nasir departed at this score with his individual contribution of 52 (five fours) and was followed soon by S P Khan for 54 (two sixes and four fours).

Thereafter skipper Aquil and Azam made useful contribution of 31 (not out) and 36 to take the score to 251 for 6.

The task of scoring 252 appeared beyond the capacity of the Prince boys and thus they started in a subdued manner. On top of that Tahir bowled magnificently to make life still more difficult for them. None of the batsmen could stay at the wicket long enough and the whole team was out in the 22nd over for a meager 110. Tahir captured four wickets for 26 and Shahzad got two without conceding any run.

Kifco would now meet Evergreen in the final on April 1. Before that however, Kifco will have an encounter with Evergreen on February 5 in the full day final of the Al Athla Trophy at the same ground.

Portsmouth wins

PORTSMOUTH, England, Feb 2. (AP): Portsmouth recovered from conceding a first minute goal to beat Second Division Sheffield United yesterday and advance to the fifth round of the English FA (Football Association) soccer cup.

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IOC steps up fight against boycotts

LONDON, Feb 2. (UPI): The International Olympic Committee is to step up its fight against political boycotts, despite the breakthrough achieved for this year's Seoul summer Olympics which has drawn entries from all but six of the 167 member countries.

Methods of punishing National Olympic Committees who opt out of Olympic competition for political reasons will be discussed at the Feb. 8-11 IOC session in Calgary, immediately preceding the winter Games.

Established
A four-man commission-IOC executive board members Prince Alexandre De Merode of Belgium, Zhenliang He of China, Marc Hodler of Switzerland and the IOC's Swiss administrator Raymond Gafner — was established in December to examine the problem.

The group will have its first meeting in Calgary and make an initial report to the session.

IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch has made the project a major priority. The last three

summer Olympics have fallen victim to the boycott syndrome. African nations pulled out of the 1976 Montreal Olympics, the US led a boycott of the 1980 Moscow games and the Soviets retaliated by orchestrating an east bloc boycott of the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics.

"We decided we had to do something to break the chain," Samaranch said when announcing the formation of his commission.

The IOC president has backed-pedalled from his earlier suggestion of banning boycotting nations from the next Olympics because this would only harm the athletes, who were already victims.

Suggestions
The working group will seek suggestions from IOC members on possible punishment measures, and it is likely that Samaranch's own proposal of withholding IOC funding will be adopted.

In a recent tele to Nicaragua after announcing it was not competing in Seoul, Samaranch warned:

Stoltenberg and Zvereva head junior list

LONDON, Feb 2. (AP): Australia's Jason Stoltenberg and Natalia Zvereva of the Soviet Union were the world's leading junior tennis players of 1987, the International Tennis Federation announced today.

Stoltenberg, 17, who last month reached the fourth round of the Australian open, headed the boys' end-of-year rankings, while 16-year-old Zvereva, who won the junior titles at the French Open, Wimbledon and US Open championships, topped the girls' list, which shows no American players in the top 20.

The rankings are based on 106 ITF sanctioned junior events held in the year.

Runner up
Stoltenberg began 1987 by winning the Australian Open junior singles title, was runner up in the equivalent competitions at both the French and Wimbledon championships and reached the semifinal of the US Open junior tournament.

Behind him in the boys' rank-

ings come Alejandro Aramburu of Peru with Andrei Chersakov of the Soviet Union third. The leading American is fourth placed Jim Courier with countryman David Wheaton ranked three places behind.

By contrast, the leading American in the girls' list is Ann Grossman at No. 22. The top ten includes three Soviets, Zvereva, Elena Brioukhovets (No. 4) and Natalia Medvedeva (No. 8).

Zvereva, who reached the last 16 of the main competition at Wimbledon, ended the year ranked No. 20 on the senior list.

Holding second place behind Zvereva in the junior rankings is Gabriela Mosca of Argentina with West Germany's Tanja Weigl third.

Top ten

The top ten boys on the ITF's singles list are:
1. Jason Stoltenberg, Australia.
2. Alejandro Aramburu, Peru.
3. Andrei Chersakov, Soviet Union.
4. Jim Courier, US.
5. Diego Nargiso, Italy.
6.

Todd Woodbridge, Australia.
7. David Wheaton, US.
8. Nicklas Utgren, Sweden.
9. Marcus Barbosa, Brazil.
10. Goran Ivanisevic, Yugoslavia.

Girls' singles:

1. Natalia Zvereva, Soviet Union.
2. Gabriela Mosca, Argentina.
3. Tanja Weigl, West Germany.
4. Elena Brioukhovets, Soviet Union.
5. Il-Soon Kim, Korea.
6. Nany Yayuk Basuki, Indonesia.
7. Steffi Menning, West Germany.
8. Natalia Medvedeva, Soviet Union.
9. Andrea Vicars, Brazil.
10. Cristina Tessi, Argentina.

Absence
Explaining the absence of Americans from the girls' top 20, John Treleven, the ITF's junior programmes administrator, said it in no way represented a lack of talent in the US.

"Many of their top girls are playing the senior circuit instead of the junior. The ones slightly younger are still at school and therefore don't play many tournaments," he said.

ARAB TIMES

Published by
Dar Al-Sayassak

Editor-in-Chief
Ahmed Al-Jarrah

Editorial Office
Arab Times Building

P.O. Box 2270

13024 Safat, Kuwait

Telephone
803 3333 (main line)

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Annual Subscription
Kuwait 45/-

Overseas and Office
Subscriptions 100/-

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